

J.S.L. - J.S.L.

## FINANCIAL TIMES



## NEWS SUMMARY

ERAL

BUSINESS

## Mayfair bomb injures twenty

than 20 people were injured when a bomb went off at 4 p.m. outside an Italian restaurant in the Mayfair area around last night. Police off the areas said no second bomb had been found.

bomb—thought to be a bomb—had damaged the Rio Fiori restaurant in Street, some 100 yards from the U.S. Embassy. Restaurant was closed at because of the injured—they taken to St. George's Middlesex Hospital—no injuries. The blast is the recent spate of bombing.

**ast rampage**

Offices last night one man dead and at least 12 were injured as Provisional IRA gunmen went on the Provos took a toll of 12. In a carefully planned and early morning raid, transformed to losses of £100,000. Back Page

**STERLING gained 20 points to \$2.0685; its depreciation was unchanged at 29.2 per cent. The dollar was also steady at 2.25 per cent.**

**GOLD gained \$1 to \$12.**

**WALL STREET fell 12.83 to 223.52 after President Ford reaffirmed his opposition to Federal aid in New York City's troubles. He said default would cause only a temporary blockade.** Page 5

**Citibank may cut rate 1%**

isters were among eight being questioned yesterday by swoops in London by ab Squad. Land hope remained that sieges would end. Dr. Tiede-Herrera two captives were given to of clothes and Mrs. returned to Dublin island.

**Her guns.**

**In Beirut**

re gun battles raged out yesterday, warring and Moslem factions used heavier weapons, including recoilless

**ish prince Castilla**

ral Franco surprised his by rallying at the edge Prince Juan Carlos preparations to succeed Sr. Fernando Maria instigator of the hard-line on Gibraltar. Sr. is being mentioned as big compromise Prince Page 6

**Drama team in Angola**

Panorama TV team, by Richard Lindley and Robin Deneslow has Angolan army, a claimed last night. No given.

**late a test**

orance of William Tyrone school as a test case entitled to judge what teaching was high in London yesterday in public inquiry into its affairs. Page 10

**ly . . .**

used abandonment of European football against Czechoslovakia at Bratislava after 17 play. A fresh start is to-day.

best Oxford University yesterday's rugby match at Ley Road ground.

est Owen, the Midlands died yesterday. Obituary Page 10

### PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

in pence unless otherwise indicated)		
RISES		
International ... 107 + 4	5	
Packaging ... 77 + 5	5	
Plastics ... 130 + 7	5	
ds. ... 140 + 15	5	
J. I. ... 151 + 21	5	
Prints, Signs ... 173 + 30	5	
Scot. Mackintosh ... 4 + 1	5	
20 and Lands ... 260 + 40	5	
Idus ... 225 + 25	5	
late Plat. ... 100 + 10	5	
urchison ... 690 + 10	5	
Prop. ... 645 + 13	5	
173 + 7	5	
efs ... 123 + 14	5	
FALLS		
Continental ... 56 - 3	5	
ent ... 189 - 5	5	
Beecham ... 312 - 5	5	
Britishland ... 127 - 5	5	
EMI ... 223 - 5	5	
English Property ... 434 - 44	5	
GKN ... 226 - 7	5	
Glaxo ... 337 - 3	5	
Ireland (E.) ... 22 - 5	5	
Kwik Save ... 238 - 7	5	
Land Securities ... 170 - 5	5	
Leeds ... 121 - 5	5	
Morris and Spencer ... 69 - 4	5	
MEPC ... 209 - 4	5	
Metall Box ... 232 - 5	5	
Midland Bank ... 233 - 2	5	
Nat. Carborundum ... 22 - 6	5	
Nat. Westminster ... 238 - 6	5	
Shell Transport ... 377 - 6	5	
BP ... 573 - 6	5	
Shell Transport ... 625 - 10	5	
Pancontinental ... 495 - 10	5	
Selection Trust ... 495 - 10	5	

## Chrysler considers selling out in U.K.

BY GUY DE JONQUIERES in New York, and TERRY DODSWORTH in London

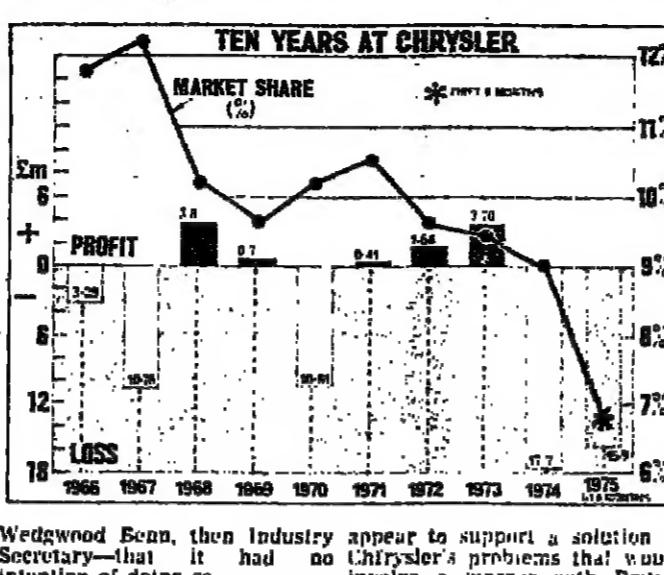
Mr. John J. Riccardo, the Chrysler chairman, strongly indicated yesterday that the company is considering the disposal of its British subsidiary as one of a number of possible solutions to its problems in the U.K. Speaking at a Press conference in Detroit, he said that Chrysler has been reviewing all its unprofitable operations worldwide and that it was prepared, if necessary, to incur a short-term loss by writing off those which offered little promise of returning to profitability soon.

We are studying alternative ways including any number of things, up to and including a disposal, if that's what it takes to get rid of the loss." While he refused to discuss any of the specific options which might be applied to Chrysler U.K., he left no doubt that it was near the top of the list of candidates for possible disposal, although no final decisions had been taken.

Describing the U.K. operation as "the biggest problem facing Chrysler," Mr. Riccardo said that both the British subsidiary and the national economy were in a grave condition.

Mr. Riccardo's statement appeared to take Chrysler U.K. officials, the British Government and the trade unions by complete surprise.

Although the deepening crisis in Chrysler's position in Britain has suggested that the company might have to withdraw, Chrysler Corporation has reportedly insisted—initially in response to a letter from Mr. Anthony



Wedgwood Sean, then Industry Secretary—that it had no intention of doing so.

According to the Department of Industry, the apparent change of policy has not been indicated to the British Government. Last night the Dof said that although it had been in regular contact with Chrysler U.K., it had "had no approach" from the company about the possibility of pulling out of Britain.

National and local union officials will be meeting Chrysler for next week to discuss the three-day week the company has just introduced. But Mr. Frank Chater, divisional organiser of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers said last night: "If the company decided to close—and frankly I can't see any willing buyers on the horizon—it would be a blow to Coventry from which it might not recover."

Labour MPs with Chrysler constituency interests are to see Mr. Eric Varley, the Industry Secretary, this afternoon to discuss the situation, and "will seek an assurance that Chrysler will stay in this country." Few MPs

were available to comment.

The significance of this approach is that it would give Chrysler a conventionally-engined car (unlike the Simca Avenger) with perhaps a larger capacity Simca variation from Chrysler's French subsidiary, and either the Avenger or Simca 1100 four-door.

News analysis, Page 23

Continued on Back Page

Editorial comment, Page 18

Talks on Government assis-

tance have been going on between the company and the Dof for several months, on the basis of a "submission" made by Chrysler outlining the way in which a financial injection could be used.

The submission fell short of a direct application for aid, but it indicated that it needs about £50m. for a new model which is essential if it is to maintain a presence in Britain.

The company believes that it would be eligible for part of this sum—about £3m.—under regional allowances, since the new car would be assembled at Linwood in Scotland. The rest would come under the Industry Act provisions.

Under this plan, Chrysler could possibly get a new model of the production lines within 18 months, since much of the development work has been done, and it could use many existing components, including the Avenger engine, with perhaps a larger capacity Simca variation from Chrysler's French subsidiary, and either the Avenger or Simca 1100 four-door.

According to sources in Lusaka, Dar es Salaam and Lourenco Marques, Presidents Kaunda, Nyerere and Machel are rapidly losing patience with Rhodesia's present African leaders.

The Presidents feel that the bitter and acrimonious divisions of the existing ANC leadership have been a major cause of the failure of the detente exercise.

While the Presidents recognise that the intransigence of Mr. Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, is also greatly to blame, they are all appalled at the inability of the present Nationalist leadership to seize the opportunity provided by the detente exercise to achieve a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia.

One last shot at negotiation—possibly between Mr. Smith and Mr. Joshua Nkomo—is not ruled out. But the Presidents are preparing themselves for the return to guerrilla war and none of them believes the present ANC leaders able to command

But, unless both parties to

detente can pull an unexpected rabbit out of the now crumpled hat, the confrontation

which is so far apart on both sides of the Black-White line will move very much nearer.

## African States may bypass ANC leaders

BY BRIDGET BLOOM, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

SALISBURY, Oct. 29.

THREE KEY African presidents, the loyalty of the freedom fighters, their strategy is not being negotiated with the present leaders of Rhodesia's African National Council, are considering the possibility of encouraging the emergence of a new leadership within the ranks of Rhodesia's African guerrilla fighters.

Unless Mr. Joshua Nkomo, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole and Bishop Abel Muzorewa can manage, either singly or together, to achieve a negotiated settlement with the White Government in Rhodesia within the next few months, the three Rhodesian Nationalists could find themselves without official support in Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique.

For its part, Tanzania probably hopes that, by the twin strategy of reverting to the armed struggle and by finding new leaders, the Nationalists will be in a much better negotiating position.

There can be little doubt that these moves by the African Presidents will, if implemented, have a profound effect in the whole Southern African area. For the time being, Mr. Smith and his Government may be the winners, in that the search for a new and viable African leadership will take time.

The South African reaction also remains to be seen—Mr. Vorster, for his part, has shown patience with Mr. Smith and observers have noted with interest that rumours last weekend of Mr. Smith's impending resignation, firmly appeared to emanate from South Africa.

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detente can pull an unexpected rabbit out of the now crumpled hat, the confrontation which is so far apart on both sides of the Black-White line will move very much nearer.

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Lombard

# The crucial role of prices

BY C. GORDON TETHER

ONE THING that emerges more clearly than ever from the latest opinion poll soundings of public at a relatively fast pace? It attitudes to the handling of the country's economic affairs is that the Government will be faced with a revolt against the 25 limit that the Achilles Heel of the Government's disinflationary strategy is to be found in the behaviour of prices. And Whitehall and the business system have clearly got to be ready to attack the highest priority to improving the programme's image on this front if the success of the whole operation is not to be put in jeopardy—whatever this may cost in terms of the disadvantages it will incur in other directions.

The latest Gallup Poll conducted for the Daily Telegraph shows that the Government's policy of restricting wage claims continues to enjoy overwhelming support notwithstanding the fact that is now beginning to bite deeply into the living standards of a substantial slice of the population. No less than 80 per cent of those questioned still approve of it and it commands just as much support from trade unionists as it does in the community as a whole.

But it is clearly a very different matter where the prices aspect of the disinflation strategy is concerned. Only one in four took the view that the Government was doing enough to hold prices down. No less than 66 per cent thought that it was falling short of its obligations in this field.

## The bargain

Public collaboration in implementing this new attack on inflation was, of course, secured on the basis of an undertaking to see that restraint on the incomes front would in due course be rewarded with a comparable turn for the better in the behaviour of the other element in the inflationary spiral—prices. So there should be no difficulty in seeing that the public's present enthusiasm for the official stand against wage excesses is not likely to survive any prolonged continuation of the price component of the bargain if the other part of the feeling that the other part of the

bargain it struck is not being honoured.

As the recent action by the junior ministers shows, there is no lack of readiness to throw down a challenge in the Government's pay policy if something approximating to an adequate excuse for doing so can be put forward. What happens if the public comes to feel as the vital months immediately ahead roll by, that its willingness to go along with wage restraint is being exploited to bring about a substantial

reduction in living standards by allowing prices to go on rising seems more than likely that the Government will be faced with a

revolt against the 25 limit that

it would have little hope of putting down.

And in this connection it must be remembered that, from the start, union dissidents have insisted that the Government's pay policy was just a device to help the capitalists at the expense of the working classes.

Needless to say, it is absolutely essential that such a confrontation—which could not do anything but inflict grievous harm on the country however it was ultimately resolved—must be avoided at all costs. And it is of crucial importance, therefore, that every conceivable effort is made to moderate the rise in prices.

Happily, the Government appears to have begun to grasp this to judge that, in the efforts to hold down key prices in the private sector and Department of Prices' plans for the public utility boards to limit increases in some domestic tariffs in the first half of next year.

## CBI's stand

It is questionable, however, whether it realises how far it ought to be prepared to go to hold prices down—even at the cost of temporarily worsening the already extended budgetary situation or incurring other such penalties. And the fact that the head of the Confederation of British Industry, Sir Ralph Bateman, has just made yet another call for the scrapping of the Price Code suggests that industry has failed to perceive the realities of this situation altogether.

There is no doubt a good deal of substance in the business system's contention that companies are being caused serious financial embarrassment by their inability to raise prices fast enough to compensate themselves for the upward movement in their costs of production. But they have to recognise that, if wage earners are being denied increases in pay of sufficient size to compensate themselves "for the amount of inflation that has taken place," employers have to be prepared to make a comparable sacrifice.

Sir Ralph is, of course, entitled to argue that the Price Code is the wrong channel through which to enforce a pay policy. But so long as that is the chosen vehicle, the bad has to be taken with the good.

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# Euryanthe and Aida

by RONALD CRICHTON

**Euryanthe.** Norman, Gedda, Krause/Leipzig Chorus/Dresden State Opera. Four in box HMV Angel

**Aida.** Caballe, Cossotto, Cappuccilli, Ghiaurov, Gardiner/Chorus/HMV three records in box set SLS 877

**'Euryanthe' is a classic of an opera of extra-musical distinction. The poor libretto, to which the two bands of eminent composers, dramaturgical intelligence behind his musical art, accept some of his music as not a mess, is an un-interfering opera doctors is likely to better. This fine and HMV Angel recording in association with Solti and Deutsche Opern Berlin) is printed in the of the ballet, added by the Berlin production**

and one need not worry about the convolutions of a struggle of evil complicated by an which took place before a starts—namely the means of a poisoned here Adolar's sister, must be experienced to sing on the eve of terms before the shot. There are other stages, a huge snake on their wanderings and Euryanthe, to be former, likely to be on the stage, but no disc for the basic Weber wrote for the bad couple, and Lysiart, anti- indeed rivals some of best pieces of Lohengrin scenes, especially of small importance. Tom meditated before and Krause is scarcely less good as snake's appearance. Adolar's baritone opponent, further into the future. The Leipzig Radio

Gray Gallery /William Darby

## Landscapes and still life

by WILLIAM PACKER

a kind of painting we of the past, of course, were held brought up to, who above all, but we saw them before the Flood; not Manet, Degas and Cezanne, necessarily in the great through the filter of our English but none the less eyes and sensibility. We know and sensitive for our place, and ambition accord Painting was held ugly was modest: simply to draw the morale of those who held a our model, and we well, paint properly, and see them might well have collapsed. Sickert and Camden clearly. Intelligent observation. But, curiously, the very Institut Stanley Spencer for married to sound techniques that had nourished the great masters would ensure at least that the seeds of Revolution were also

artist restrained his self-respect busy preserving those of while he starved in his garret. Reaction. The Slade, Academic Schools, and the Royal Academy, that has always down honourable intentions, and when reform changed the Colleges, to themselves the best and perhaps for ever, ten years ago, brightest post-graduate students have turned out to be the bastions of the old order. At the old order they defected has proved to be not so ludicrous after all. We can look again at the English painting of the last hundred years without blushing, or apologising, or feeling that we are indulging a perverse taste. This easier climate of critical re-assessment has helped contemporary figurative painters, the surveyors, who came out from cover some time ago, reeking nicely of turpentine and linseed oil.

At the Thackeray Gallery in Kensington, Ben Levene is showing his work of the last two years, a mixture of landscape and still-life painting. His painting is vigorous, the colour clean and strong, the handling confident and energetic. He is drawn always towards pattern, not as an easy decorative ploy, but as simplified description. It might be the eccentric patch-work of Herefordshire fields, or the more regular geometry of a Kelim rug, but in either case our eyes are led deep into the picture plane. But pattern is decorative, it does lie on the surface of things. Here aided by the bright colour, which is extremely lush and attractive, it refers back constantly to the surface of the painting itself, always reminding us that a painting is a thing as well as an illusionary device. Levene engages in this visual debate deliberately and successfully. Shadows cast onto a screen parallel to the picture-plane, a tree reduced to a stark flat silhouette, the issue is raised with every brush-stroke.

This, however, is not a self-conscious nor laboured emphasis, but simply a natural part of the business of painting pictures. Everything that is made must refer in some way, even unconsciously, to its making, and we need not be too astonished that a painter like Levene starts with the visible world, and interest in it, and the rest follows, ranges of pots and jugs, flowers, gardens, fields and fountains, moors and mountains. Perhaps he is distracted at times by the sheer prettiness of colour, and the richness of oil paint, weaknesses of a Romantic, but, if he wobbles, he does not fall.

MAX LOPPERT

**Avalon Singers at the Purcell Room**

The 'Avalon Singers, a women's choir recruited by audition from Women's Institutes in South-east England, will give a concert at the Purcell Room on November 19 at 7.30 pm under Antony Hopkins.

The programme includes first London performances of 'Riding to Orpheus' by Anthony Hopkins and 'An English Day' by Elizabeth Poston.

Il Hall

## dré Tchaikowsky's concerto

and glorious tradition concerto written by the presence of encouraged by the presence of the same orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic. At best, in the central movement of André Tchaikowsky, who might expected to produce something through the Stravinsky cut-and-thrust, the late-Prokofiev flourishes and *moto perpetuo* passagework.

Elsewhere, in the Introduction and Passacaglia, but more so in the finale, brashening its fugue, sonata, and toccata, a slight greenness threatens to seep out from the basic material, a hint of burning organic energy to be revealed behind the formal gestures. It will be interesting to hear the work again, with an orchestra and conductor more firmly in possession of the shifting rhythmic patterning, than the RPO and Uri Segal. An important novel that cannot be missed in the concerto is book by Elizabeth Poston.

Anthony Eyton is an alumnus of Camberwell College of Art, even more so than any of the others, for the open mind it took, the *Masada* of English painting. Whether it will come to a bad end we must wait to see. Meanwhile he is showing recent towns and landscapes, and some essays in figure composition at William Darby's new gallery in Bond Street. The figure paintings, large beach scenes, represent the polite and decorous expressionism, so acceptable to English taste, evidently skillful, well-observed, but undecided and unfinished. But the landscapes of Italy are altogether tougher, academic post-impressionism, again palpably English, but resolved and consistent, and rather distinguished.

The programme includes first London performances of 'Riding to Orpheus' by Anthony Hopkins and 'An English Day' by Elizabeth Poston.



Susan Fleetwood, Stephen Rea and Margaret Whiting in 'The Playboy of the Western World,' which opened last night at the Old Vic

Lyric

## The Sea Gull

by B. A. YOUNG

The Lyric Theatre Company foolishness, for she is playing to begins its season well with a *Seagull* for rather, for some reason, a *Sea Gull* that she had lost her temper with her son, the anger was genuine and the even matching of the true dimensions of the tragedy?

Trigorin is played by Peter McEnery, who gave Konstantin

at the theatre next door a decade ago.

It is a first-class perfor-

mance, beautifully shaped in

a rising curve. On his first visit

to the house, he is reserved and

shy, and the director keeps him

out of the centre of things. Only

after he has revealed his weak-

ness for Nina do his emotions

Book Reviews appear on Page 29

After his angry exit to that scene, he remains sulky, hardly able to be nice to Nina, not trying to be nice to Masha melting briefly as his mother changes his bandage but hardening again at once. In the last act he has become a writing robot, until his dismay at Nina's ultimate avowal of her love for Trigorin drives him to his end.

There is good work by John Moffatt as Sorin, an old man with a young mind—Patsy Rowlands as Pauline and Leonard Fenton as her gauche husband, and especially by Patricia Hesley as a Masha whose spiritual decay has by no means extinguished her personal charm.

Tredegar opening

for 'Aneurin Bevan'

The first night of *Aneurin Bevan*, a new play by David Ifflingworth commissioned by the Welsh Drama Company, will be held at the Miners' Welfare Hall at Tredegar next Monday, November 3.

It moves to the Sherman Theatre, Cardiff, the following day, where it will play until the end of the week. It will then

move to the stage, and she soon loses tour in Aberystwyth, Cwmbran, Bangor and Swansea.

The best way to find out about an airline is to ask the people who speak its language.

England

I am a frequent air traveller using many airlines throughout the Middle East and Europe. In my opinion, the punctual, efficient service I received on board a PIA flight from Karachi to Jeddah was the best I have ever experienced.

ENGLISH STATISTICIAN

The Gulf

يسألنـى أهـلـى شـركـة الـطـارـطـاجـيـة الـبـاسـتـانـيـة عـلـى مـا تـقـدـمـه مـن مـعـاـدـلـة وـلـطـفـة وـشـافـعـة مـن كـفـرـلـهـيـة جـيـحـ

أـنـهـذـه الشـركـة الـجـريـة هـيـنـمـنـكـاتـالـقـلـلـالـقـيـقـيـنـمـنـأـسـانـأـسـانـعـلـى طـاعـرـتـها

DUBAI COMPANY DIRECTOR

France

PIA sait très bien lorsqu'il faut vous laisser tranquille. J'ai dormi sans être dérangé de Paris au Caire et j'ai à peine remarqué l'escale de Francfort.

FRENCH FASHION BUYER

Thailand

เป็นสายการบินที่รวดเร็ว快捷 ไม่ต้องนั่งนาน ก็ไปได้ ซึ่งลูกค้าคงมีมากแล้ว ใจดีไม่เคยหักหลังกับการดูแลของเราเลย

THAIUK EXPLORE

America

As an American living and working in Pakistan, I have nothing but praise for PIA. Every year I fly home to the States with my family, and the service we receive is quite exceptional. Last year we flew economy and the flight was as enjoyable as ever.

AMERICAN CIVIL ENGINEER

Japan

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JAPANESE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRIALIST

Germany

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GERMAN ECONOMIST

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PAKISTANI BANKER

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Sunday, January 25

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## WORLD TRADE NEWS

### Nine months' car import bill £9m. above exports

BY TERRY DODSWORTH, MOTOR INDUSTRY CORRESPONDENT

U.K. EXPENDITURE on car imports has gone up by 50 per cent over the first nine months of this year, raising the car import bill, to £828m., to £9m. more than the revenue earned by car exports.

Taking all production sectors other than new cars, however, the British motor industry has been buying import exports this year.

Helped by rising commercial vehicle, component and specialist vehicles sales, total export earnings for the nine months jumped 41 per cent above a year earlier to £1.9bn. For September alone, shipments were up 40 per cent.

Imports by value between January and September 30 increased 37 per cent, to £797m., giving an export surplus of £1bn.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said remains by far the largest single earner of export revenue within the motor industry, with exports in the nine months up 37 per cent to £828m., compared with £23bn.

Commercial vehicle sales abroad have proved particularly successful this year, earning £31m. or 65 per cent above a year earlier.

At the same time, the import penetration of commercial vehicles has been pushed back dramatically, and despite inflation, the value of imported vans below 3 tons gross vehicle weight dropped to £10.7m. over the nine months against £13.4m.

Larger commercial vehicles have cost Britain £56m., an increase of 11 per cent or much less than the current rate of inflation.

The components sector last year, export earnings from specialist vehicles lagged behind cars by £70m.

Imports of specialist vehicles, however, have equally risen sharply, to £88m. for the nine months, against £48.7m. in the same area this year. The latest British concerns—notably in Britain—has just been filed.

The details were given at an officially organised investment seminar in the Malaysian capital by Datuk Hamzah Abu Samad, Minister of Trade and Industry.

He stressed that companies already in Malaysia would have to conform with the guidelines, which means that a number of old-established British concerns.

Imports of specialist vehicles, however, have equally risen sharply, to £88m. for the nine months, against £48.7m. in the same area this year. The latest British concerns—notably in Britain—has just been filed.

Britain has traditionally been the largest foreign investor in Malaysia, with book value of investments of £500m.

The general Malaysian aim is that foreign investment will be allowed in the proportion of 30 per cent foreign equity and 70 per cent Malaysian, including 30 per cent bumiputra (or indigenous) Malay.

Datuk Hamzah said in some variations for the benefit of potential investors. New import substitution products must have a 100 per cent Malaysian ownership.

Mr. Scarascia-Mugnozza revealed that the Japanese reaction had been "positive" in that serious study of the problem is promised.

On steel, the vice-president said he had not been deputed to make representations for the Community, but had taken the opportunity "to try to make the Japanese more sensible about the problems" in advance of meetings to be held at Brussels in December.

The EEC is known to be anxious about recent falls in world steel prices, as well as Japanese inroads into the European market. "MITI has declared that the situation is getting to be stabilised, but we are not in a position to judge whether this is true, especially as regards prices," stated Mr. Scarascia-Mugnozza.

It is believed the Japanese side has "foreseen" a sharp decline in steel shipments to Europe this quarter. While the community is willing to take this on trust, it still wants some form of international monitoring of pricing policies, probably under the auspices of the OECD. The Japanese have yet to agree to in consultation with Japanese firms.

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## AMERICAN NEWS

**Ford obdurate over New York bankruptcy finances**

PAUL LEWIS, U.S. EDITOR

DENT FORD publicly fled himself to the bank of New York City today, hoping for new legislation to end essential services and to finance back on a short-term basis if it defaults on its debts.

President's proposal set a speech at the National Club this morning, bought flying in his hostility to federal assistance for Ford and he said firmly that old veto and legislation had to stave off default at the expense of the taxpayer.

President admitted that it would cause some "ills" for the financial industry, but he said that they were temporary and that he had already largely dismissed the city's impending bankruptcy.

In the past, the New York authorities have been careful and extravagant that had made very all but inevitable by levels of public service excess of what the city's

taxpayers were willing to support.

The essence of President Ford's new proposal is that existing bankruptcy laws should be amended to enable the city to seek federal assistance without facing up to the fact that they had any other alternative—and that federal assistance would only postpone the inevitable decisions.

The immediate effect on the President's proposals has been to complicate the task of those Democrats in the Congress who are trying to bring the federal government to New York's aid.

Senate Banking Committee has postponed until tomorrow a vote on a plan for a \$500 million federal guarantee plan, which seems certain to be exceedingly close.

In the House Banking Committee, Democrats claim a strong majority for a similar scheme. But the fate of such federal assistance plans remains more uncertain than ever on the floor, now that the President has come out firmly against this approach and suggested an alternative of his own.

**Lions claim Tabasca sands**

BERT GIBBON

MONTREAL, Oct. 28.

INDIAN Association of has claimed ownership of 100,000 square miles of sprouting the main Athabasca deposits in Alberta. The Association is of intention to make a deal with the provincial government, and theoretically if the Registrar accepts the Association would days to prove its claim Alberta Supreme Court.

Postmaster-General asked to-night issue in a pay dispute among postal workers re-unsettled in court. "But for the first el that we have made press," the Postmaster

**Provide names, says SEC**

BY JAY PALMER

LOCKHEED Aircraft's desperate legal battle to protect the identity of foreign Government officials bribed to promote the company's overseas sales now faces a major stumbling block.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, which is investigating the aerospace company's admitted payments of more than \$22m. in foreign bribes since 1970, yesterday rejected a court scheme supported by the company to keep secret.

The SEC argued that such a court-sanctioned arrangement would be an impossible process for the Agency's continuing investigation into a number of companies' foreign pay-offs. It added that any such deal would

also effectively block the Agency from ever completing its planned suit against Lockheed.

Lockheed has admitted, in various different disclosures before federal Government investigators making under-table payments to Government officials in 15 foreign countries, including one unidentified nation in Western Europe. The company has consistently refused to make public either individual names or details on the grounds that such disclosure would jeopardise present and future sales.

While the SEC in principle does not seem unwilling to consider some sort of deal with Lockheed, it is clearly not willing to go so far as to prejudice its case against that company.

**Oil majors accept Caracas deal**

BY JOSEPH MANN

ALL THE major oil companies operating here had accepted the Venezuelan Government's nationalisation compensation bids yesterday. The last day allotted for responding to Government offers made over two weeks ago.

Twenty-one private oil companies and a number of small firms working within the country's petroleum industry

will be taken over by the state on January 1 and will receive \$1bn. in indemnification. Of this \$102m., will be paid in cash, it was announced yesterday, while \$800m. will be paid in interest-bearing Government bonds.

Only one small company, the El Paso Venezuelan Company, rejected the Government's compensation offer and will fight the case in the Venezuelan Supreme Court.

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**Argentina guerillas 'execute' Fiat official**

By Robert Lindley

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 29.

FOUR GUNMEN killed a high executive of Fiat to-day as he was leaving his home in Cordoba. A communiqué from the Montoneros, the Peronist guerrilla group, claims it was they who carried out the execution.

The victim, Alberto Salas, a 43-year-old Argentine, was personnel manager of Fiat's diversified products division, one of whose plants is Materfer, Latin America's largest rolling stock producer.

On October 26, Fiat closed its "Industria" plant for developing an aircraft engine against its death threats against its executives by union activists. Fiat made it impossible to establish "order, authority and the rhythm of production." However, obeying a Labour Ministry injunction, Fiat reopened Materfer the following day.

A few hours before the executive this morning, six union leaders employed at the Government's shipyard at Rio Santiago were kidnapped by armed men at the headquarters of the Association of State Workers in La Plata, the capital of Buenos Aires province. The kidnappers left a message on the union premises declaring that the six hostages will be "executed" to-night if the demands for wage rises by workers at Rio Santiago shipyard are not met.

Premier John Compton is bitter about what many have termed the white elephant of Hewanorra and tends to blame the British Government, which is still responsible for negotiating bilateral route rights on St. Lucia's behalf. "We are caught in the middle of a situation which is clearly unsatisfactory from our point of view," he says. "Because we still have an associated state, we don't have the authority to negotiate with other Governments or airlines on our own behalf for aircraft route rights."

British West Indian Airways, in pursuit of the Trinidad and Tobago Government's policy of extending assistance to CARICOM neighbours where possible, is

**ST. LUCIA IN THE CARIBBEAN****Troubles of a small island**

BY DAVID RENWICK RECENTLY IN CASTRIES

ST. LUCIA in the Caribbean is engaged in pressing for some form of scheduled air services to save the winter tourist season which begins in mid-December.

The brand new Hewanorra airport at Vieux Fort in the south of the island, built at a cost of EastCarib\$2m. (about £1.7m.) as a gift from the Canadian Government, stands magnificently unused most of the time.

British Airways flies in twice a week. Eastern Airlines from the U.S. once, and British West Indian Airways, owned by the Trinidad and Tobago Government once. The smaller inter-island carrier LIAT, formerly owned by Couri Line, now run jointly by the CARICOM governments, serves St. Lucia daily, using Vigie airport in the north of the island near the capital of Castries, but has no international connections and is dependent mainly on West Indian day-trippers.

Attempts by the St. Lucian Government, the Tourist Board, the Chamber of Commerce, and other agencies to expand this traffic have so far proved fruitless. British Airways has declined to increase its frequency at this stage and Air Canada has not shown any desire to fly to St. Lucia on a scheduled basis at all. Most Canadians, who constitute St. Lucia's fourth largest tourist source, arrive by charter.

Mr. Compton, who won last year's general election rather narrowly than he had expected (by 10 seats to the St. Lucia Labour Party's seven), can afford any worsening of the unemployment situation at this stage. Unemployment is officially put at between 10 to 15 per cent, and over 15 per cent among the teenagers.

Only one small company, the British Development Corporation, in the single Eastern Caribbean state, was "a tangible expression of confidence in a territory which has been more successful than others in weathering the recent economic storms."

The St. Lucian Government intends to hold the controlling share in any company formed to generate electricity by thermal energy but Mr. Compton has stressed that he welcomes foreign investment on as wide a front as possible. The Government has worked out that it will require SEastCarib\$25m. just to provide jobs for the 1,000 or so who leave school each year. "That type of money is simply not available in St. Lucia," Mr. Compton points out.

The recession in North America has affected land development schemes such as the much-heralded Rodney Bay project, in which both the St. Lucian Government and the Commonwealth Development Corporation are shareholders. Rodney Bay of the turn-down in the banana

industry.

In the medium-to-long term, the ace up the Government's sleeve is the potential availability of thermal energy resources from the sulphur springs at Soufriere, 26 miles from Castries in the south west of the island. Until recently, the sulphur springs were regarded as no more than a tourist curiosity.

But intensive exploration, financed by the British Government, has convinced most experts that the springs can be harnessed to provide plentiful power for the delivery of steam to generators should be in place.

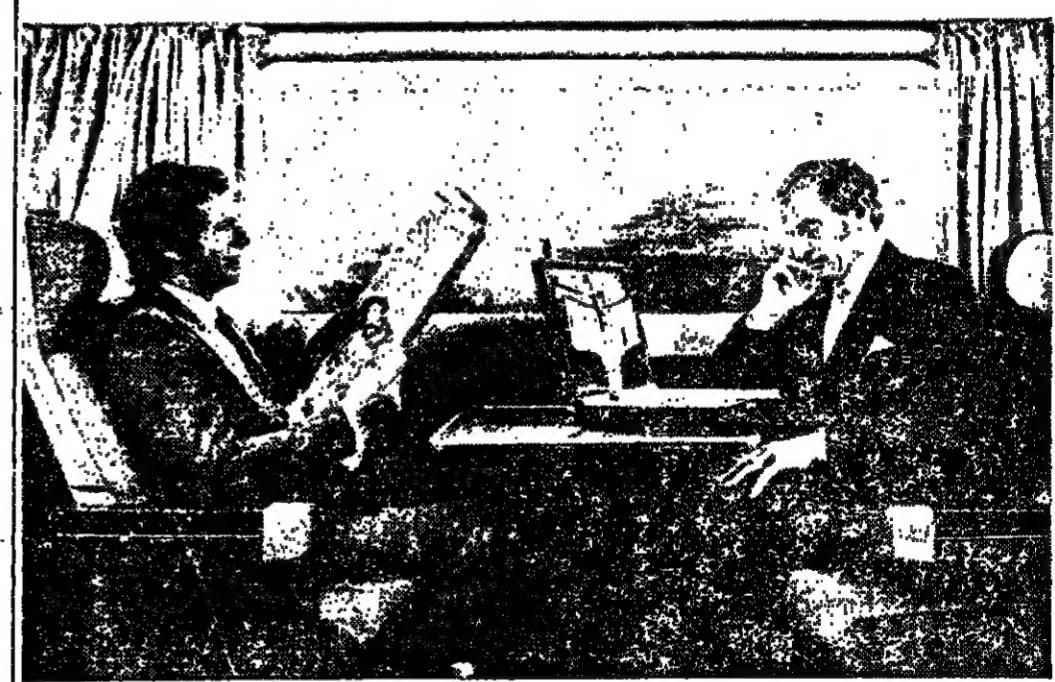
St. Lucia will then be one of only two CARICOM countries (Trinidad and Tobago) with an indigenous source of moderately-priced energy. Mr. Compton has pointed out that a good producing thermal well could provide St. Lucia with more electricity than is currently needed, putting the island in a position of being a major candidate for industrialisation.

A local energy source would save St. Lucia EastCarib\$2m. now used to buy 15,000 tons of fuel oil every year. Mr. Compton has been talking to the Caribbean Development Bank and the Commonwealth Development Corporation about further finance for actual production of the power and to such overseas investors as the Japanese about possible investment in down-

town industries.

The St. Lucian Government has been equally generous, observing that St. Lucia was the only one of the group known as the less-developed countries (LDCs), actually to balance its budget and have a small surplus to carry over to the capital account. St. Lucia's budget this year of SEastCarib\$25m. was the lowest level for many years.

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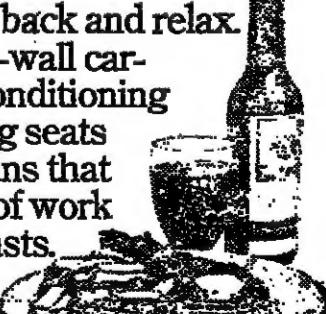
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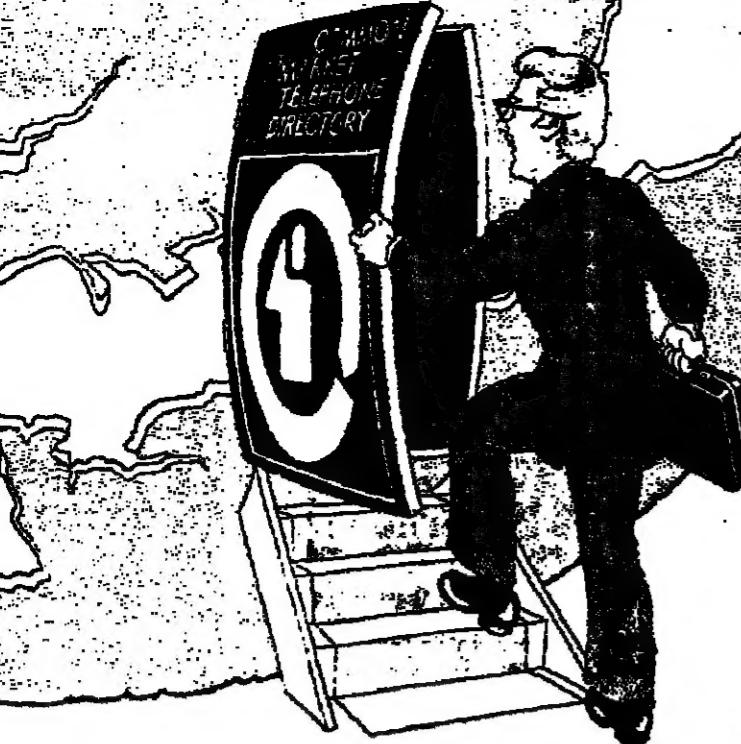


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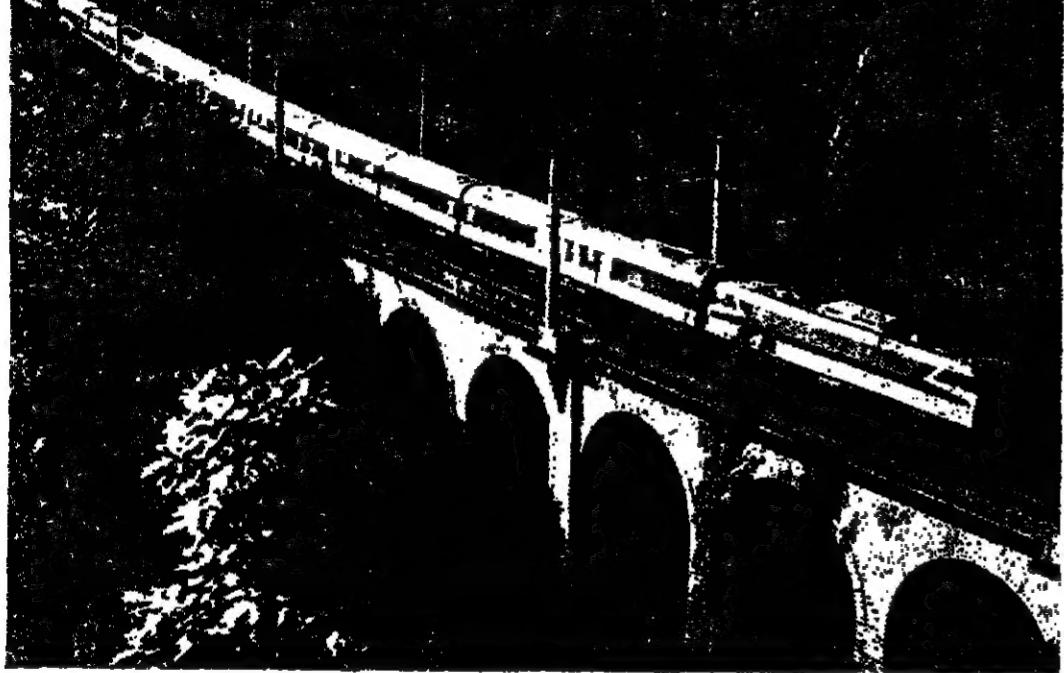
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## EUROPEAN NEWS

### Eurocourt rules on labour movement

By A. H. Hermann

AUTHORITIES of member States must not restrict the free movement and employment opportunities of other EEC nationals for reasons of "public order" not related to the personal conduct of such foreign residents and, in particular, must not limit them in their trade union activities.

This was decided by the European Court in Luxembourg when giving judgment in the case of M. Roland Rutili, who retained Italian nationality after his father, though he himself was born in France where he lives and is married to a French woman with three children.

French authorities who did not like his participation in the events of 1968, first expelled him from France but later allowed him to stay on condition that he resides in a specified district in central France.

The judgment, which deals with the same area of EEC law as in the complaint of the Dutch Scientologist, Miss Van Duyne against the Home Office, goes much further in defining the principles of human rights or natural justice which are applicable to EEC rules on free movement of workers and possibly also in other situations.

The Court said that when restricting the free movement of the national of another member State, because his personal conduct is in conflict with public interest, the authorities must observe certain rules of fairness.

In particular, the person concerned must be told immediately the authority's reasons and must be given an opportunity of review.

Turning more specifically to the restrictions imposed on M. Rutili, the Court held that it was contrary to the EEC Treaty to impose on nationals of other EEC countries restrictions which could not be imposed on own nationals—in other words M. Rutili's residence permit must not be limited to a specified part of France if French nationals cannot be legally subjected to similar limitations.

The European Court has largely followed the opinion submitted in this case by its First Advocate-General, Henri Mayras, who held that Article 48 of the Treaty must be interpreted as conferring on EEC nationals a fundamental right of free movement which can be restricted only for grave reasons of personal conduct.

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## Strauss bids to upstage Kohl

By JONATHAN CARR

BONN, Oct. 29.

IN the space of a few 120,000 ethnic Germans have left Poland for West Germany over the last four years. Herr Strauss has managed to convey the impression that he is now in the tune within the West German political opposition. The reason for this is that Bonn's own political candidate to lose stock has been the smaller Bavarian sister's candidate for Chancellor, the moderate Dr. Helmut

incidents have caused considerable indignation within Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU). Not for the first time, though, the CSU, under Herr Strauss, is making all the noise. The onus is now on Kohl to reassess himself if he wants to avoid being voted for the agreement.

Dr. Kohl was evidently not informed of Herr Strauss' initiative in advance. Only yesterday did he produce a statement saying that he too "could not recommend" the Opposition to go along with the accord. Tactically, Herr Strauss seemed to have seized the initiative.

In a similar development earlier this month, the two party leaders were involved in a dispute over comments by the CDU general secretary which Herr Strauss felt moved the union parties too far to the Left of Warsaw, due to come or approval in Parliament Tuesday. It involves, among things, payment of pensions by Bonn for benefits to who made social security during the last war. Mean Warsaw is to allow some the political spectrum.

## 'an delaying delivery Phantoms, say Greeks

OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ATHENS, Oct. 29.

is holding up delivery of American-built F-5 Phantom fighter planes which Greece used from the U.S. well-sources said here. The sources said their planes were given on lease and were to be delivered next October after the Air Force replaced them new ones. But the Iranian government is now withholding al which will release the to Greece, the sources

matter is a delicate one. has been seeking all the relations with Iran, with it hopes to conclude inter-agreements for the pur- oil on favourable terms.

Foreign Minister Hosni Mubarak, in Tehran in this context, e other hand, Washington, anxious to see Turkey U.S. bases on its soil, handing its arms embargo, to Turkey. The decision has irked Greek military Reuter

Feature article, Page 9

## In for more access to F compensatory finance

DAVID EGLI

GENEVA, Oct. 29.

ERALISATION of the exceptional length and depth of international financing facility with expanded access to the IMF, is proposed by the D. secretariat as a means evaluating the growing difficulties of payments difficulties developing countries. That the current deficit of these countries, \$32bn. last year, from in 1973, Mr. Gunnar E. Secretary-General of D. believes that the shortfalls in revenue of \$35bn. this year could be covered by the IMF compensation facility, however, if the shortfalls were further aggravated by the industrialised world.

## Igian GM set to win ti-trust case

DAVID CURRY

BRUSSELS, Oct. 29.

AL Motors Continental, Belgian subsidiary of the American motor company, is well on the way to its appeal against an st fine of 100,000 units imposed by the Brussels Commission. The European Court of the Advocate-General, Mayras, to-day recommended that the fine on the combined concern should be annulled. The judges have delivered the final

### Greenlanders claim minerals

By Hilary Barnes

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 29.

THE GREENLAND Provincial Council declared unanimously yesterday that the Greenland underground belongs to the resident population of Greenland. Implying that it does not belong to the Danish state. The declaration, which is an assertion of the Greenlanders' right to decide over the mineral wealth in Greenland and off the Greenland coast, is seen here as a victory for Greenland's left-wing politicians.

The declaration has no legal validity.

### New Dutch gas find

By Michael Van Oo

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 29.

A NEW appraisal gas well drilled in Dutch territorial waters of the island of Ameland has established that the onshore Ameland Field stretches into the sea and now involved a "major commercial" field.

## THE GREEK PLAN FOR A BALKANS CONFERENCE

# A hopeful beginning to a long pull

BY PAUL LENYAI, VIENNA CORRESPONDENT

THE CYPRUS conflict should give a much-needed push to what is in August, 1954, Yugoslavia, with its Greek and Yugoslav customs union was movement for regional co-operation. But then the Balkans, an ally of drafted but never fully realised the Second World War, have always been more suitable ground for political-maneuvring than, for example, a regional gathering—evidently from dead letter under the twin impact of cold war partition and the Cyprus dispute. The Romanians' welcome for the Yugoslavs' proposal was commission, signed an aviation It is probably also forgotten therefore no surprise. The agreement and began to move Balkan nations have fought for the right not to be ruled by an outside great power. The Yugoslavs, Romanians and Albanians are concerned lest the Cyprus conflict lead to a return of old scores between Greece and Turkey, as it were, through the back door. Though boycotting Balkanwide arrangements, the Albanian leader, Mr. Enver Hoxha, has repeatedly stressed that if necessary, the Albanians would fight side by side with the Greeks and Yugoslavs to defend their independence.

It is not only shrewd tactics but also in the Balkan tradition that if necessary, the Albanians would play a role in the region, as it were, through the back door. Though boycotting Balkanwide arrangements, the Albanian leader, Mr. Enver Hoxha, has repeatedly stressed that if necessary, the Albanians would fight side by side with the Greeks and Yugoslavs to defend their independence.

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## OVERSEAS NEWS

# Heavier weapons in Beirut fights

BY IHSAN HIZAJI

BEIRUT, Oct. 29.

AS FIERCE gun battles continued here to-day, the rival factions have introduced heavier weapons into the fighting to improve their positions.

The announcer of the State-controlled Radio Lebanon said that in the exchanges last night highly destructive weapons were used, causing additional bloodshed and damage.

The capital and its suburbs had witnessed yet another "black night," he said. The speaker did not identify the fighters who continued their bitter and bloody war of attrition.

The Right-wing Phalangists appear to be trying to relieve the pressure on their men around the sea-front area, a rocket which fell in the Palestinian quarter of Sabra last night killed 20 people and injured 77. A retaliatory barrage from leftist militiamen shelled the Phalangist-controlled area of Ashrafieh.

Nevertheless, armoured vehicles of the Government security forces were reported to have gone through the Leftist Moslem positions to evacuate 200 foreigners and Lebanese nationals who had been stranded in the multi-storey Holiday Inn. The Leftist Moslems were said to have advanced to within several hundred yards of the building, a key focus of the struggle, which was still being fought by the Christian Phalangists.

New political moves initiated by the Prime Minister, Mr. Rashid Karami, have not yet produced any effective result. The Prime Minister last night slept at his office at Government House while continuing to wait for the nine other members of the "security committee" set up by him yesterday, to show up.

This morning a few arrived at his office in Government House, but the two main Christian members, Mr. Camille Chamoun, the Interior Minister, and Mr. Pierre Gemayel, the Phalangist leader, were still absent. These two, as well as the Socialist leader Mr. Kamal Jumblat, have expressed certain reservations about the new committee, and a deadlock has resulted.

To-day some sections of the land of the city.

## Sadat calls for consultations

EGYPTIAN President Anwar Sadat to-day told the United Nations that unless the Middle East crisis was resolved peacefully, Egypt would have no alternative but to liberate its occupied territory by force.

In his first address to the world body, the Egyptian leader also called for immediate consultations to reconvene the

President Ford in Washington toasted Israel instead of Egypt in a slip of the tongue last night at a dinner hosted by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

At the end of the dinner in his honour, Mr. Ford proposed a toast to "the great people and Government of Israel. Excuse me," he quickly amended himself, "of Egypt."

Geneva Middle East peace conference in the near future.

The President's speech was seen by observers as a strong reply to criticism that he had sold out the Arab cause in the recent Sinai disengagement agreement.

President Sadat on the third day of his state visit to the U.S. told the UN General Assembly that the Geneva conference should meet without interruption to "deal with all aspects of the (Middle East) problem to achieve a just and permanent peace."

The Egyptian leader also asked the UN General Assembly to pass a resolution during its current session to give the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representation at the Geneva peace conference "on equal footing with other bodies represented there. He added interim settlement," Mr. Rabin

that the Egyptian delegation at added.

## Israel's inflation to continue high

BY L. DANIEL

TEL AVIV, Oct. 29.

WHILE THE rate of inflation is beginning to slow down in most western countries, finance ministry economists expect it to continue in Israel at the rate of at least 25 per cent. in 1976 (the same as this year).

This is despite the fact that all forecasts envisage an increase in the number of unemployed from 39,000 to 67,000—or from 3.4 per cent. this year to 5.8 per cent. in 1976. There has also been a very small net addition to the labour force as a result of a sharp drop in immigration and an increase in emigration.

The deficit in the balance of payments is seen as rising from \$3.7bn. to \$4.6bn. this year. The country's external debt is expected to rise still further—by \$1.7bn. to \$9.2bn. even if Congress approves Israel's application for loans and grants for defence purchases, one-third of

## CULTURE SHOCK IN NEPAL

# The Queen's tough Gurkhas

BY KEVIN RAFFERTY, RECENTLY IN KATHMANDU

ALL THIS week hundreds of men living thousands of miles away and with no ties whatever to Britain—not of kinship, nor race, nor religion, nor colour, nor creed, nor even of slender Commonwealth affection—will trek for days through tough mountainous country to try to pledge themselves to the service of the Great White British Queen. It is once again the recruiting season for those stalwart mercenaries of the British army, the Gurkhas, once called "the blood-thirstiest, friendliest soldiers in the world."

Whatever pressures impel them to seek enlistment, they are strong enough to ensure that there is no shortage of potential recruits. Last year, for example, when the message went up to the hills that there would be 300 or 400 vacancies, 15,000 men turned up at the recruiting stations—or that was the rough count before the counters had a splendidly kept mansion with a marble floored dormitory to stop counting and begin selecting.

Once you are in Nepal those pressures are obvious enough and from there began the long journey home from Hong Kong or leave returned in. All the men disembarking were wearing simple cut shorts and clutching at children and modern gadgets. One typical family included a four-year-old girl dressed in an imitation tigerskin coat and tugging along a huge white doll as big as herself; her big brother

was not outdone, with his loud of the Gurkhas spoke of a family defence force of Hong Kong and millions of dollars of foreign tradition and essentially subversive society. The money has been able to earn may buy him extra land; the those serving to-day can trace a relative or someone from the defence cuts: the plan is to those who has drawn his reduce it to 6,000 by 1979. If faced by the Gurkhas themselves, provide some comfort, or this happens, then one of the two. They have to trek down from do not significantly affect the hills with no certainty of problems of survival in the kingdom where the moon

the real monarch. The ships may rest more heavily than their children, who may have seen the traditional

## For the British Army the Gurkhas are a bargain

motive is economic. According

to Government figures, 92 per cent of all land holdings in the hills of Nepal consist of one hectare or less, and the land is not parcelled into neat lots. A household may have its land cut into several untidy strips separated by as much as a mile, and that land has to be worked hard before it will yield fruit. Gurkha society is a hardy one in which there is some consolation in that each individual can have a secure place from the cradle to the grave without Western satanic preoccupations.

For the British army the Gurkhas are a bargain. The roll of Gurkha honours and Gurkha lead in the British cause is a long one: the Indian mutiny, 1857, the North-West Frontier, France, Mesopotamia, Gallipoli, El Alamein, Monte Cassino, Burma, the Malayan terrorist emergency, and confrontation with Indonesia. In the two world wars there were 200,000 Gurkhas fighting for Britain.

Up there in the rare mountain air, Dharan or Pakhawa, the Gurkhas are a bargain. The roll of Gurkha honours and Gurkha lead in the British cause is a long one: the Indian mutiny, 1857, the North-West Frontier, France, Mesopotamia, Gallipoli, El Alamein, Monte Cassino, Burma, the Malayan terrorist emergency, and confrontation with Indonesia. In the two world wars there were 200,000 Gurkhas fighting for Britain.

Edward VII Own Gurkhas will be being recruited. This year for the first time the British Army is trying to preselect and is sending recruitment officers up to the hills to find likely lads in Next spring after 33 years the Gurkhas will retire.

Some military specialists believe that it is a bad thing for Britain to have mercenaries in the army, and that the tradition of recruitment from Nepal should come to an end. There are two answers to that: cost and manpower. The Gurkhas have proved excellent sturdy immigrants, yet they cost much less than British soldiers.

Once chosen he faces the greatest and the hardest training. None of this will him much in his life but simple life in the hills. If he wants to eat he eats with his fingers; he dresses in what he pleases; if he wants to relieve himself he wanders deeper into the hills. After being chosen he has only two nights in the Kathmandu transit camp before flying off thousands of miles to Hong Kong and to barracks room civilisation, including plates, knives and forks, a uniform—

For the Royal Nepal Government is in two minds about whether it should allow its men to be hired to fight for other countries. About 45,000 to 50,000 Gurkhas, through the Indian army, secret, are in the Indian army. Again the financial considerations are clear.

When his service is over the Gurkha has to go back to a traditional way of life.

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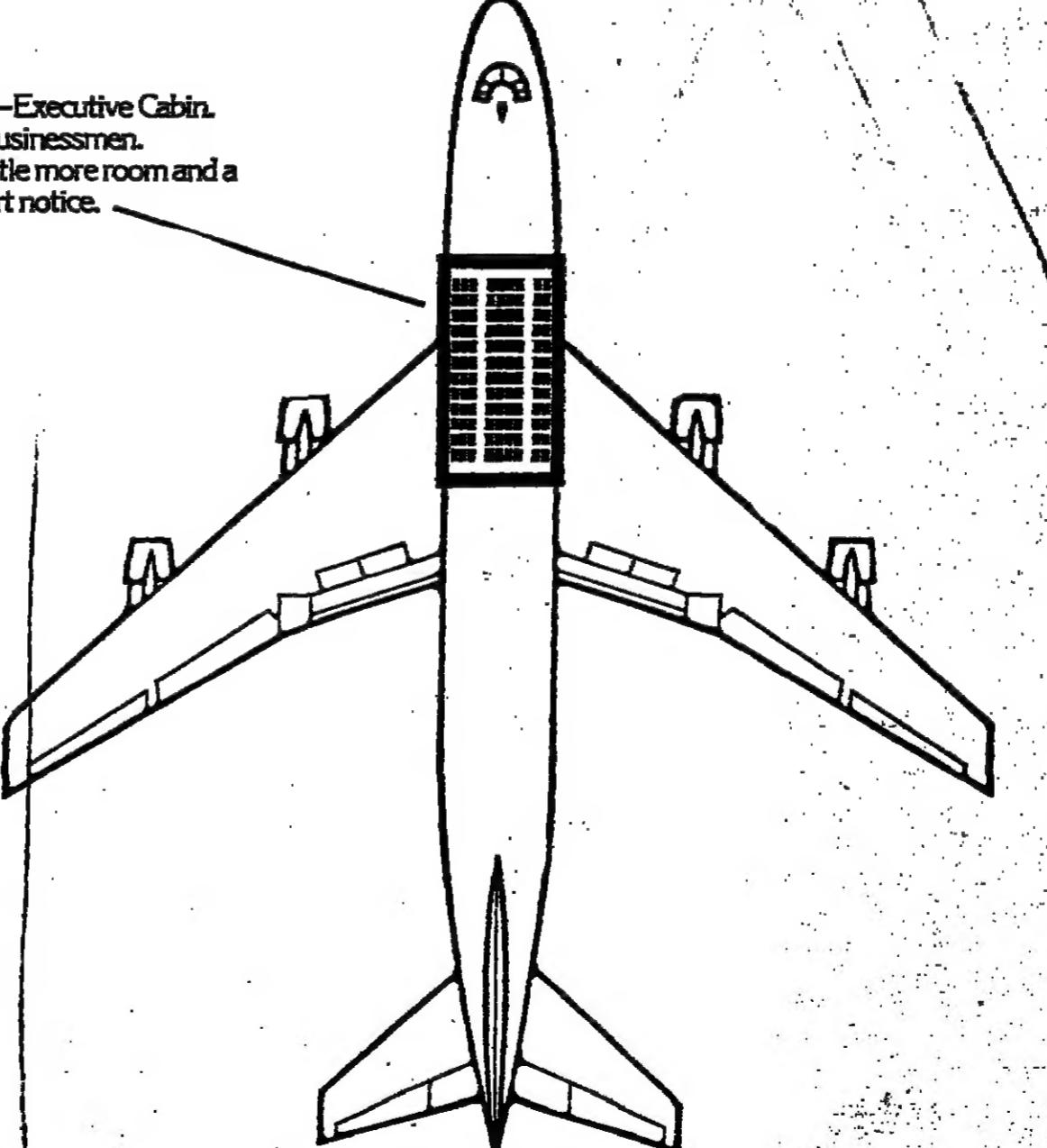
Gurkha has to go back to a tradi-

tional way of life.

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JAL  
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Talks aimed at avoiding a repetition of the cod war have now started between Britain and Iceland.

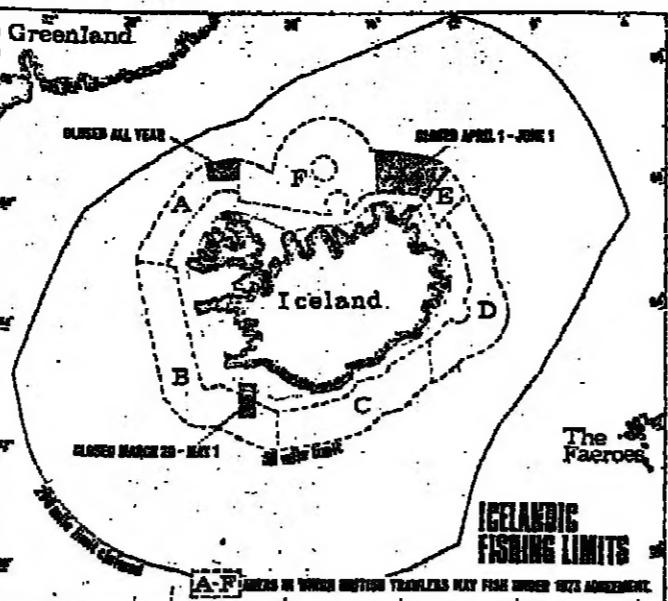
William Dullforce reports

# The catch in deep water fishing off Iceland

BRITAIN AND Iceland are in about tons of fish since the process of negotiating a limit and regulations are means fisheries agreement to re-controlling the amount of the two-year accord which fish caught by each country's led the 1973 cod war and vessels. In the 1973 agreement which expires on November 13, the British quota was fixed at a week a West German team 130,000 tons a year. Until negotiations in Reykjavik earlier this month the Icelandic UK on fishing rights for position was that Britain's right man vessels within Icelandic to fish this quantity expired on. If another cod war is to November 13, when British avoided, both negotiations trawlers would have to leave st succeed. For the Iceland the 50-mile areas and that talks are making any agreement could deal only with rights an EEC country condition between the 50-mile and 200-mile on the lifting of the West mile limits. The British position was that the 1973 agreement was only temporary and that its expiry would mean a return to the previous status quo, with British vessels able to fish freely right up to Iceland's 12-mile territorial limit.

## Unilaterally

On October 15, Iceland unilaterally extended its fishing zone to 200 miles, anticipating 200-mile economic zone for states to which the United Nations Conference on Law of the Sea is gradually extending. No other country has recognised Iceland's extension, although the U.S., Canada and Norway have at least been considering similar extensions. It is legally significant, and the 200-mile extension is a major factor in the London talks since, under the 1973 cod, British trawlers take the bulk of their catch inside 50-mile limit which Iceland had unilaterally in September 1972, thus sparking off the war. Fundamentally, the talks are



Icelandic, British and West catch of demersal species (including plaice and Greenland halibut) in Icelandic waters are the most important fish for should be cut from 682,000 tons the British trawlers and which in 1974 to 426,000 tons in 1976 are caught predominantly within a drop of over 34 per cent, in the 50-mile limit. The total order to preserve the fish catch of the four species de-stocks. In particular, the Institute from 685,000 tons in 1974, with of 230,000 tons next year comes the British share dropping from pared with the 375,000 tons just over 187,000 tons to less fished in 1974.

The table shows the quantities of the four main demersal species (those that feed at the bottom of the sea) taken in the Icelandic fishing area (which is bigger than the 50-mile limit) in the 1971 to 1974 period by which proposed that the total catch, and the Icelanders claim

that UK trawlers are damaging sure that logic will prevail—the stock by catching fish that negotiators should aim first at are too small. The MRI claims agreeing on a figure for the that if cod fishing were maintained at its present level, it would be possible to catch some 340,000-360,000 tons a year for the next few years with the mechanics of how to control the catch. The accompanying map shows the existing situation, the outer, unbroken line indicating the 200-mile limit now claimed by Iceland and the heavier, broken lines marking the six "boxes" inside the 50-mile limit within which British trawlers are allowed to fish under the 1973 agreement. Boxes A and D are the crucial ones, because most of the cod is caught inside those areas.

This is the "conservation" argument in the Icelandic case. After the talks in London last week it was agreed that a team of British fisheries experts would travel to Reykjavik to examine the research work on which the Icelanders are basing their stock estimates and forecasts. Mr. Bjarnason has promised that the British will be given the opportunity to evaluate fully the methods by which the MRI arrived at its conclusions.

The Icelanders then have what may be called their "moral" argument, based on their economy's total dependence on fishing. Fish products account for nearly 80 per cent of their exports. They argue that it is immoral for Britain and West Germany (and Norway, for that matter) to subsidise their fishing fleets, enabling them to catch fish in Icelandic waters, while Iceland cannot subsidise the industry on which its economy rests. This argument is balanced on the British side by consideration for the interests of the distant-water trawlers of Grimsby, Hull and Fleetwood. Logically—although it is not

## WHO CATCHES WHAT

Year	Catches of the four main demersal species in Icelandic waters			
	Iceland	Britain	W. Germany	Total
1971	250,300	161,800	27,000	439,100
1972	225,400	147,100	11,700	384,200
1973	234,900	122,300	6,800	364,000
1974	238,300	115,400	5,600	359,300
				<b>HADDOCK</b>
1971	32,400	8,500	2,000	42,900
1972	29,300	8,500	700	38,500
1973	34,400	7,100	1,800	43,300
1974	34,200	5,900	1,200	40,400
				<b>POLLACK</b>
1971	60,000	23,400	40,600	124,000
1972	59,900	13,700	36,900	110,500
1973	56,300	12,400	38,600	107,300
1974	65,200	8,800	18,600	102,600
				<b>OCEAN PERCH</b>
1971	29,100	3,600	46,600	79,300
1972	27,000	3,700	44,000	74,700
1973	26,400	3,800	38,400	67,800
1974	27,800	2,500	30,400	60,700

Source : Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries

100. Here again the Icelanders to some extent simplifies matters. They want a substantial drop in their agreement to allow numbers corresponding to the German vessels to fish in the reduction in the catch they hope area between the 50 and 200 mile limit. In the 1973 agreement the British negotiators will still enable effect on employment in the hague of fish. East Coast ports if more trawlers have to be laid up.

## Quota

When agreements were being negotiated in 1973 a quota of 85,000 tons was fixed for the West Germans. Icelandic objection to the use of freezer trawlers by the Germans prevented any agreement being signed and has led to regular cutting of the trawls of German ships inside the 50-mile limit by the Icelandic coastguard. The Germans took just under 70,000 tons of fish from Icelandic waters in 1974.

The German talks essentially will have to determine the size of the catch to be taken within the 200-mile area by German vessels and deal with the vexed question of the freezer trawlers. If they agree to reduce their catch, the West Germans because the Germans catch mostly pollack and ocean perch ready to accept a continuation and very little cod, and because they operate with different vessels. The species fished by the German trawlers outside the 50-mile area. In any case the feeling in Reykjavik is that it will be easier this time to settle the cod, many of them on with the Germans than with the edge of the 50-mile limit. This, British.

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## HOME NEWS

# Ulster to have stronger development agency

BY ROY HODSON

FACED with a worsening economic situation in Northern Ireland, the Government has already decided to attempt to stimulate industrial investment there by creating a powerful new development organisation on the lines of the National Enterprise Board.

The chosen vehicle is to be the existing Northern Ireland Finance Corporation which was set up with a limited brief to help business damaged by the political situation.

The new body is likely to be based upon the existing professional team at the NIFC in Belfast and to be called the Northern Ireland Development Corporation or Agency. It is expected to have an available budget of some £15m. a year to use for the expansion and regeneration of Northern Ireland's industry.

The NIFC, which was set up in 1973, has been handling about one-third of that sum each year. In the financial year to last March, it invested £5.2m. and approved future spending of a further £4.5m.

The chairman of the NIFC is Mr Kenneth Clark, and the general manager is a 31-year-old former Belfast banker, Mr Franklin Adair. They are forecasting an expansion of the staff by about 30, answerable to a

## Analysis

Sustained inward investment into Northern Ireland is unlikely to be responsible for the Belfast shipbuilding company of Harland and Wolff which was taken over by the Government recently.

A Government-sponsored report on the company, which is now circulating, blames poor management and a lack of budgetary control as among the foremost reasons why the company ran into trouble in spite of a £35m. Government-backed modernisation scheme and a good order book.

The proposed Northern Ireland development body will not be responsible for the Belfast shipbuilding company of Harland and Wolff which was taken over by the Government recently.

A document to be circulated today by the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation attempts to define a role for the proposed development body. It urges that

insurers are finding it increasingly difficult to balance their motor accounts unless they make very frequent rate revisions. Legal and General earlier this month announced its third successive six-monthly rate revision, while in August the Pearl Assurance made a rate increase only four months after the previous rise.

The Pru last lifted its motor rates on March 1 by an average of 27% per cent—a record increase at the time—while also changing its method of rating vehicles.

# Pru and Zurich lift motor insurance premiums by 15%

By ERIC SHORT

NEARLY 1m. motorists face paying substantially higher premium rates on their motor insurance from November 1 with an accident-free record being in a country district would receive a premium of £47.24 after

two more leading motor insurers, the Prudential Assurance, with more than 600,000 motorists on its books, and the Zurich Insurance Group, which insures about 300,000 motorists, are to increase their premium rates for private motorists by 15 per cent across the board.

The increases are being made within 12 months of the previous rate revision—within six months in the case of the Zurich. Both insurers blame the rapid rise in the cost of claims, repairs and spare parts.

Insurers are finding it increasingly difficult to balance their motor accounts unless they make very frequent rate revisions. Legal and General earlier this month announced its third successive six-monthly

rate revision, while in August the Pearl Assurance made a rate increase only four months after the previous rise.

The Pru last lifted its motor rates on March 1 by an average of 27% per cent—a record increase at the time—while also changing its method of rating vehicles.

The Zurich last increased its rates on May 1 by an average of 20 per cent after having held them steady for more than a year. Motorists renewing with Zurich after November will pay premiums 38 per cent higher on average than a year ago.

The Pru is also lifting its rates for motor-cycles and commercial vehicles by 15 per cent. The Zurich does not write motor-cycles insurance business and is leaving its commercial vehicle rates unchanged.

Straightforward comparisons

# Croslan warns councils on spending

By JOHN BOURNE

A FURTHER warning to local authorities about the extent of their overspending was made yesterday by Mr Anthony Croslan, Environment Secretary.

He told the Parliamentary Labour Party that the Exchequer's contribution to local government finances was now two-thirds of local authority spending, and that last year the contribution had increased by 10 per cent, when national income was almost static.

Mr Croslan doubted whether

the Government's £15m. with the closure of fact wool textile industry scheme though none have been mad

which was due to close at the end assistance towards merger of the year may be extended to least so far.

allow the available grant money

to be fully taken up.

So far the Government has either paid out or is due to pay out a total of about £15m. under the scheme, which is designed to encourage modernisation and restructuring within wool textiles.

Up to one week ago £4.5m. had been received in respect of re-equipment projects, and £5m. for com

petitions involving a total esti

mate of £55m. or equivalent, and £11.5m. in the

application for extension will probably also have to be submitted on these pr

ojects. The amount is estimated at £4.5m. and

ments to date have amounted to £4.1m.

Payments totalling £2.5m. have been made under the scheme dealing with closures,

and the West of England has been reasonably high. About 130 applications have been made for closures in the combi

tor. Payments totalling £1.5m. are expected to be

on applications still pend

ing.

**Limiting factor**

The scale of the schemes

which is designed to find roughly 80 per cent of

the resources for reorganisation

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# After a day spent wrestling with executive problems, no man wants to wrestle with an executive car.

Over the years many cars have borne the tag 'executive'.

A device guaranteed to keep them off most executives' shopping list.

A glance in any company car park will show that the top spots are occupied by cars that help, rather than label, their owners.

To this list of discreet, comfortable cars you can now add the Volvo 264GL.

At £5596, it's the most expensive Volvo we've ever built. And the best.

Everything that could be done to make your journey as safe and tranquil as possible has been done.

The engine is a new all-aluminium V-6 with twin overhead camshafts. It's as quiet and smooth as you'd expect in a car of this quality.

The automatic transmission is the very latest to be used by Volvo and is noticeably smoother than many other systems.

(Of course, if you prefer to shift for yourself, a manual gearbox is also available.)

The steering is power-assisted, but there's no sensation of take-over. The driver still feels a contact between car and road.

Air-conditioning is a standard feature on the GL.

It has advantages other than that of keeping the temperature down. In summer, because you can drive with all the windows firmly closed, it also keeps the noise down.

(If you find yourself frequently driving on motorways you'll appreciate how tiring noise can be.)

The Volvo seats have long been a model to the rest of the motor industry.

They are designed not by thwarted furniture stylists but by dedicated engineers and orthopaedic specialists.

In Volvo's laboratories, the activity

of the spinal muscles were measured under various conditions, and as a result of this research, a unique lumbar support control was built into the Volvo's seats.

It has been proved beyond doubt that this feature can reduce the strain on back muscles.

Naturally, all this science is elegantly obscured by real leather.

Other visible signs of the 264's quality include metallic paint, tinted electric windows, deep pile carpet, headlamp washer/wipers and a sliding steel sun-roof.

But perhaps the most comforting feature of driving a Volvo is one you can't see. And hopefully never will.

Extensive statistical research into road accidents in Sweden (where almost every make of car is represented) showed that there were fewer fatal accidents in Volvos; that Volvos were safer in head-on collisions, and that they were by far the safest in collisions with other cars.

Think about that for a minute.

If your fellow directors don't see the significance, maybe they should talk to your wife.



VOLVO 264

# ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

**emira**

## Systems Development Accountant

Dorking, Surrey. Circa £5000 plus mortgage assistance.

Our client, Friends' Provident, is one of the U.K.'s leading life assurance companies, and is currently developing one of the most advanced data base control and management information computer systems in the insurance field. A young accountant is now required to add further expertise to this development.

He will be a member of the user liaison team which is responsible for defining systems requirements and ensuring that the results meet expectations. He will spend several weeks learning about the company and its business and will then take primary responsibility for defining the needs of the accounting area.

The experience gained in this assignment will be invaluable and applicants, preferably graduate Chartered Accountants, should telephone or write to David Hogg A.C.A. who is advising on this position.

E.M.A. Management Personnel Ltd  
Halton House, 20/23 Holborn  
London E.C.1  
01-405 8362/3

## Controller of Audit and Investigations

London

£10,000 +

British Gas is a Corporation with a gross cash flow of £3,000m and over 100,000 employees. A key post in the financial structure at Holborn is that of Controller of Audit and Investigations who is responsible to the Member for Finance. The Controller of Audit and Investigations has direct access to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

This post presents a unique opportunity to make a real contribution to management throughout the industry. Internal Audit in British Gas is highly organised with considerable emphasis being placed on D.P. Audit and the audit of capital contracts.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate an outstanding degree of both audit and management ability. The job will entail a considerable amount of travelling to all parts of Great Britain. Salary will be in the region of £9,950 + £402 Inner London Weighting.

Applications, accompanied by a full career history and quoting reference F.005 549 FT, should be made to the Personnel Manager (HQ), British Gas, 59 Bryanston St, London, W1A 2AZ. Closing date for applications 17th November, 1975.

BRITISH GAS

Switzerland

**C&L**

£20,000+

## INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CONTROL

We are searching for a really outstanding businessman with a strong international industrial background and a record of successful achievement.

Reporting to the Group Chairman, he will assume the financial and commercial leadership of a privately owned multi-million dollar metallurgical group with manufacturing and marketing subsidiaries in five continents.

The group is a world leader in its field, has a remarkable growth record and is exceptionally well placed in the present climate to take advantage of its lead in advanced technology.

Location Switzerland, salary is for discussion.

Please send brief details, which will be treated in confidence, to:

E. J. Robins, The Executive Selection Division - MR483,  
Coopers & Lybrand Associates Ltd., Management Consultants,  
Shelley House, Noble Street, London, EC2V 7DQ.

**Mervyn Hughes Group**

59 St. Mary Axe, London, EC3A 8AR  
Management Recruitment Consultants

01-283 0037  
(24 hours)

## Senior Accountant/Analyst

c. £5,500

Our Client, the British Airports Authority owns and operates the U.K.'s major International airports - including Heathrow and Gatwick. A Senior Accountant is required to join the Finance Department at the Head Office near Victoria. This is a challenging appointment involving participation, as a key member of a financial team, in the developing activities of the Authority. Apart from an involvement in monthly/annual accounts budgets and forecasting responsibilities will include long range financial plans, cash flow/profitability studies and special investigations.

Eligible Candidates should be qualified Accountants aged 25-30 and preferably with a degree in a numerate science.

Please write or phone 01-283 2844 to: B. G. Luxton. Ref. 5605A.

## GROUP FINANCE CONTROLLER

£7,000 +

A Group Finance Controller is required by an old established Wholesale and Retail Food Distribution Group whose sales exceed £25m. p.a.

The environment is highly competitive and challenging: this calls for a high degree of management skill. An awareness of the importance of accurate control through advanced techniques of financial management reporting is essential.

The successful applicant will be a chartered accountant, have a wide knowledge of industry, understand computer based systems, be aged 30-40 years and be prepared to reside near Shrewsbury.

He will report to the Chairman and, after a suitable initial period, will be eligible for appointment to the main Board.

Fringe benefits include a company car, whole life insurance, long term disability insurance, part BUPA cover and a profit sharing scheme.

All replies, which will be treated with confidence, should include c.v. and salary progression, and be addressed to: The Chairman, Morgan Edwards Limited, Sundorne House, Featherbed Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NS.

## CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

£5,000/£6,000 p.a.

The successful applicant will be a qualified Chartered Accountant (or Management Accountant) and will have a commercial background. An ability to implement a firm financial planning and control system is important. The company is based in the South East. Write in the first instance to the Chairman, Box A5299, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

## INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

A major international financial corporation, with operations throughout Europe, is seeking an individual to assist the senior financial officer in Europe in its Treasury Department.

Primary responsibilities will include European-wide cash management, and control, financial analysis and assessment of credit risks. Candidates should be in twenties or early thirties and should have practical experience gained in banking or a corporate treasury function. A good working knowledge of Sterling, European currency and money market would be a distinct advantage.

This appointment, London based, involves some travel to European financial centres and offers considerable opportunity for the development of financial and management skills. Attractive salary by negotiation. Please write to Box A.5295, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

## AUDIT MANAGEMENT-EUROPE LONDON BASED £7500-Benefits

A leading U.S. multinational corporation with its European headquarters in London seeks an accountant with international audit experience to head up a small audit department.

Reporting to the Director of Auditors, he will be responsible for the implementation of financial control systems, the investigation of joint-venture interests and the development of operational audit techniques throughout Europe.

The successful applicant should be able to demonstrate a significant record of achievement in an international accounting role and possess the potential to progress to assistant vice-president level.

In the first instance, please telephone or write:

LLOYD CHAPMAN ASSOCIATES  
9 Maddox Street London W1P 0ES 01-580 7761

C

## CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

A Paris-based firm of Chartered Accountants is looking for a candidate (age 35 years max.) to occupy a post of

## SUPERVISOR

Applicants will have had professional experience with Anglo-Saxon accounting firm(s), established in France and will be ready to live in Paris. A sound knowledge of French is essential. Good career prospects.

ETUDES ET RECHERCHES COMMERCIALES,  
7 rue Lauriston, 75115—Paris (France).

**emira**

## Finance Manager

North London

Circa £6500

Currently undergoing rapid expansion, our client now requires a Finance Manager for its division of three precision engineering units turning over £18 million.

He will be responsible for the entire finance and accounting function of these units. Reporting to the General Manager he will supervise 81 staff and will be expected to develop systems, implement controls, monitor and review reports, and carry out projects orientated towards business development and profitability.

As a key member of the top management team he will be closely involved in the development of this substantial division.

Applicants, aged 27-35, should be qualified accountants with at least 3 years experience in a manufacturing environment and should telephone or write to David Hogg A.C.A. who is advising on this position.

E.M.A. Management Personnel Ltd  
Halton House, 20/23 Holborn  
London E.C.1  
01-405 8362/3

## Finance Director

£8,000 Plus — READING

SPP is a successful, marketing orientated group of companies based on an old-established pump manufacturing business. It has interests in contracting, control equipment, irrigation and agro-industrial planning. A large proportion of its £10m turnover is exported: it employs 650 and is a wholly owned (and largely autonomous) subsidiary of Booker McConnell.

The present finance director is being promoted within Booker's Engineering Division and a successor is sought who will be responsible to the Chief Executive for all financial aspects of the group's operations.

The successful applicant will be a qualified accountant, probably 35-45, with broad experience embracing many or all of:

Industrial accountancy, computer methods and management, acquisitions, project appraisals, export finance, foreign currency transactions and the pricing of competitive bids.

A car, re-location expenses and usual large company benefits will be included in the remuneration package.

Please write to: J. A. Nutt, Chief Executive,  
SPP Group Limited,  
Oxford Road,  
Reading RG3 1JD

**EDP**  
A Booker McConnell Company

## Assistant Internal Auditor

Amsterdam

Our client, a major international trading company, seeks an Assistant Internal Auditor to join the internal audit staff in Amsterdam.

Candidates will have:

- \* ACA or equivalent
- \* 2-4 years of auditing experience including operational and financial auditing
- \* good command of the English language; additional languages are an asset
- \* ability to work independently.

The position offers:

- \* competitive salary based on experience and qualifications
- \* excellent fringe benefits
- \* exposure which leads to promotional opportunities.

Please write, giving brief details of age, education and experience, quoting ref. 1174, to:

Anne Knell,  
Binders Hamlyn Fry & Co.,  
76 Shoe Lane,  
London EC4A 3JE

## Audit Manager

£8000-£9000

Our client, a major international company, seeks an Audit Manager to head up a professional team responsible for internal auditing and related functions throughout Europe.

Applicants should hold a professional accountancy qualification and should have substantial experience in a large, public accounting organisation. Proven supervisory or management experience is a prerequisite.

Promotional prospects within the Company are solid, and conditions of employment first class.

The position will be based in West London. Please write with full details to Position No. IBA 3245 Austin Knight Limited, London W1A 5DS.

Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Position Number Supervisor.

**AK ADVERTISING**

# GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS  
ALSO APPEAR TODAY ON THE  
FOLLOWING PAGE

## Tax Consultant

London

Our client is a highly successful tax consultancy, with an outstanding reputation for innovation at the highest levels and across a wide spectrum.

An additional senior member is sought, whose exact status will be open to discussion, but who will require an advanced ability to interpret taxing statutes and who will possess a flair for problem solving.

Whilst formal academic achievements in themselves are not important, the man appointed will probably be a solicitor, or possibly, a barrister or chartered accountant. Because he will be dealing with clients, banks and other advisers at the highest levels, it is essential to demonstrate considerable intellect and authority.

Whilst initial salary will be probably within the range quoted, applications are invited from those capable of commanding a higher figure — certainly the successful individual can expect to earn considerably more, once established.

To apply in total confidence contact David Adams, Solicitor, on 01-405 3498.

No information will be disclosed without specific consent.



**Lloyd Management**

Brownlow House, 50-54 High Holborn, London WC1V 6ER. Tel: 01-405 3498

## Charles Barker Recruitment Confidential Reply Service

Please send full career details and list separately companies to which we should not forward your reply. Write the reference number on the envelope and post to our London office, 30 Fannington Street, London EC1A 4EA.

## Investment Fund Manager

Our clients, a City accepting house, are now expanding their investment management services.

The Investment Fund Manager will come in at senior management level and take responsibility for the House's managed funds as well as dealing with clients' portfolios to meet their individual requirements. He will therefore have at least four years' experience of fund management at a high level, probably in a merchant bank or leading stockbroking firm, and have administered substantial portfolios. He will also be asked to develop new business and be prepared to travel and promote the Bank's business in all aspects.

Experience of overseas securities markets will be valuable, as will a knowledge of another European language, particularly German.

The salary is negotiable, according to experience and qualifications, and future prospects will be limited only by ability.

Reference 1337

## EXECUTIVES

### Seeking Positions

with U.S. companies  
N.E.S., a U.S.-based executive search firm, is currently seeking executives for key positions with leading corporations, both here and abroad.

If you are able to command a base salary equivalent to at least £5,500, then this is your opportunity, for a reasonable fee, to profit from our close personal contacts, built up over 30 years, with top management in expanding areas world-wide.

A letter outlining your accomplishments and intentions could result in an exploratory interview that might be the first step in advancing yourself towards a rewarding position within a career growth environment.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SEARCH

3 Rue Pierre-Potin,  
1204 Genève,  
Switzerland  
or "P.O. Box 1204 3025  
Geneve, Switzerland"

PROGRESSIVE  
STOCKBROKERS  
require

### MANAGER

Applicants must have a minimum of 10 years Stock Exchange experience, hold a senior position, and have in-depth knowledge of preparing stockbroking accounts for audit purposes.

Please write giving details of previous experience to Box A5298, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

## UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES MIDDLE EAST

Due to a substantial growth programme, a major Kuwaiti private trading firm engaged in the Sales and Servicing of automobiles, trucks, electronic products and construction equipment seeks competent applicants aged 25-35, preferably Arabic-speaking graduates, to fill the following vacancies immediately:

**Labour Relations Officer**  
As the 'link' between the work force and management, this is a key position. Preferably, an Arab or someone fluent in Arabic. Responsible for the day-to-day welfare of the employees, reporting labour problems to top management, keeping records of holidays, absenteeism, etc.

### Compensation Officers

Applicants will have to prove proof of ability in work studies, in automotive heavy equipment manufacturing company or have some knowledge of computer systems or experience of organisational methods and job evaluation for competition and comparison.

### Recruitment Officers

These positions call for skill and experience in the person-to-person task of interviewing and screening potential applicants and to work on special projects.

### Senior Programmer

The successful applicant will work in the Credit Division of a major finance group. Experience in a similar position is required.

**Attractive Benefits**  
• TAX-FREE SALARIES — up to £5,500 p.a. for Labour Relations Officer — up to £5,000 p.a. for other positions.

• FREE country-wide medical services.

• PAID HOME LEAVE of thirty days and three Economy Class return air tickets.

• HOUSING, FURNITURE AND CAR allowances. INTEREST-FREE LOAN for car purchase.

• Excellent opportunities for advancement.

• All positions are suited to Arab nationals but applications from non-nationals would be considered.

Applicants should in the first instance send c.v. (detailing position applied for, age, languages, qualifications, experience, telephone number and availability) in confidence to Box A5288, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street EC4P 4BY

## TEXTILES

A vacancy exists in the Research Department of a major firm of stockbrokers for an experienced analyst to cover the Textile sector. The requirement is to produce in-depth work principally for the use of the firm's Institutional clients. Background qualifications would include a university degree and research experience with either an investment institution or with a firm of stockbrokers.

Applications will be forwarded direct to our client. Please indicate in a covering letter any firm to whom you do not wish your application to be sent. Please write, quoting ref. 792, to:

W. L. Tait,  
Teneche Ross & Co.,  
Management Consultants,  
Executive Selection Division,  
27 Chancery Lane,  
London WC2A 1NP.  
Tel: 01-832 5481

## Iran Commodity Executive

Merrill Lynch International seeks a seasoned commodity professional for a senior post in a newly formed venture based in Iran. The executive selected will have a minimum of ten years experience dealing in a broad range of physical commodities, a general knowledge of the futures markets and a proven record of success in sales. He will be prepared to spend three to five years in Iran on this assignment and will either have lived there previously or have acquired a knowledge of the country from past business dealings in Iran.

To make application for this highly paid and professionally challenging opening, please send a curriculum vitae providing full details of your background and qualifications in strictest confidence to:

Roger J. Davis,  
International Personnel Director,  
c/o Merrill Lynch Holdings Ltd.,  
95 Gresham Street, London EC2.

MERRILL LYNCH  
INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED

## MANAGING DIRECTOR (Designate) c. £12,000

This Scottish based appointment is with BAXTERS OF SPEYSIDE, famous throughout the world as manufacturers of extremely high quality, well marketed food products.

The important qualifications are: age 35-42; almost certainly a Graduate in a numerate or business related discipline; a successful record of profit accountable management in fast moving consumer goods; plus a current involvement and complete understanding of today's grocery retail environment.

He will report to the Chairman and be expected to contribute to the Company's profitable growth at home and overseas, by the provision of firm decisive leadership, motivation and direction to a competent team of professional managers with functional responsibility.

Salary by negotiation around £12,000 plus car, normal fringe benefits, the possibility of some equity and profit sharing participation. Temporary accommodation is available and relocation expenses are naturally envisaged. Appointment to the Board would be after a minimum probationary period.

If you feel you meet this specification, please telephone or write for application form and job specification, in complete confidence, to:

Eric Jameson Associates Ltd.,  
110 High Street, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 3TA.  
Telephone 021-705 7399.

## MANAGING DIRECTOR c. £12,000 + profit share

A public company requires a Managing Director for one of its major manufacturing subsidiaries situated in the North West of England. The subsidiary markets a range of technical products both in the UK and overseas and your objective will be to sustain the impressive profit performance of recent years.

Aged around 40 and with a proven record of success, you must have senior general management experience in a high technology manufacturing environment and an enthusiastic approach to the use of sophisticated financial aids in maximising profits and return on investment. The possession of a strong marketing aptitude coupled with experience of supplying UK

The salary will be negotiable around £12,000 and significant profit sharing arrangements are offered. A car and normal fringe benefits are provided; relocation expenses will be paid where necessary.

REPLIES will be forwarded direct, unopened and in confidence to the client unless addressed to our Security Manager listing companies to which they may not be sent. They should include comprehensive career details, not refer to previous correspondence with PA and quote the reference on the envelope.

PA ADVERTISING LIMITED,  
2 Albert Gate, London SW1X 7JU. Tel: 01-235 6060

## International Business Executive

We seek an internationally orientated business executive to become Confidential Assistant to the Vice President of a Saudi Arabian company which is expanding its world wide interests, already having an annual turnover in excess of 100 million pounds sterling.

He will be expected to assist and advise the Vice President in the evaluation of new ventures, identify fresh opportunities and carry out administrative tasks involved in the management of the present company.

Preferably having a legal qualification, his background might be in international finance or real estate. He may also have gained some marketing or general management experience within a multi-national organisation.

Probably single and in his thirties, he will spend a considerable time travelling but will be based in the Middle East.

Salary, which is negotiable and free of tax, could be in excess of £25,000 per annum — indicating the calibre of individual being sought.

Please write in confidence, quoting reference 60127, to M. D. Maxwell-Lyte, Knight Wegenstein Limited, 75 Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3HR. Telephone 061-236 0987.

**Knight Wegenstein Limited**  
(incorporating Askey Associates)  
Management Consultants and Consulting Engineers  
London - Manchester - Edinburgh - Zurich - Geneva - Chicago

## GILT-EDGED SALESMAN

Astitutional firm of London Stockbrokers have a vacancy in their expanding gilt department. A Salesman is required to join young team in order to increase coverage of firm's extensive list of clients. Prospects are excellent. Competitive salary by negotiation.

Please write in the first instance giving full personal details to Mr. Butler, Connell, May & Stevenson Ltd., William lake House, Marshall Street, W1, with a covering letter naming the names of any firms to whom you would not like your reply to be forwarded.

## LEASING

### NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL

quired by the International Leasing group of major International Bank for its U.K. operation. e successful candidates are likely to be in their d-twenty and should have marketing experience with a major finance house or bank. Salary by negotiation and usual bank fringe benefits will apply.

Full details to:  
Box A5296, Financial Times,  
10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY

## WOOD, MACKENZIE & CO. STOCKBROKERS

are seeking to recruit a  
**DEALER**

We require a dealer with mining experience to join our International Department in London. The person we have in view will have several years' experience in this field. Salary will be commensurate with age and experience and there will be considerable scope for the right person as he will be expected to develop a senior role in our International Dealing Department.

Applications, including details of age, qualifications and experience, should be sent to the Partner in charge of our International Department:

R. L. Norbury, **WOOD, MACKENZIE & CO.**,  
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8EP

## SHORTLOAN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Applications are invited from **EUDOLLAR DEPOSIT BROKERS** with considerable knowledge of the London Market. Successful applicants should have at least five years experience, incorporating a full understanding of both the North American and European Markets.

All replies, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, should be addressed to:

Mr. N. H. Woolley, Chairman,  
SHORTLOAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.,  
4 City Road, Finsbury Square,  
London, EC1Y 2AU  
Tel: 01-588 6292

## MARKETING DIRECTOR

£7,000+

A Marketing Director is required to control and expand the profitability of an old established Wholesale and Retail Food Distribution Group whose current annual sales exceed £25m.p.a.

The appointment is new and is based on a revised organisation table which has been introduced as a result of a number of acquisitions.

The successful applicant is likely to be aged 30-40, have a wide knowledge of marketing and be prepared to reside near Shrewsbury.

He will have been successfully accountable for profits, preferably in the food industry and should also be able to work with executives skilled in other fields including finance, general administration, computers, work study, etc. He will report to the Group Managing Director and Chairman.

Fringe benefits include a company car, whole life insurance, long term disability insurance, part BUPA cover and a profit sharing scheme.

All replies, which will be treated with confidence, should include c.v. and salary progression, and be addressed to The Chairman, Morgan Edwards Limited, Sundorne House, Featherbed Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NS.

**CRU**

Consultants

Commodities Research Unit is a growing firm of independent economic consultants with offices in London and New York, advising governments and international companies on problems relating to all aspects of the development and marketing of primary raw materials.

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## PARLIAMENT



## Britons reported safe in Lebanon

ALL BRITISH nationals in Lebanon are safe and well, as is known, Mr. James Callaghan, Foreign Secretary, told the Commons yesterday.

Mr. Callaghan said that according to the British Ambassador, there were no reports of any of the 3,000 U.K. nationals there being injured.

He confirmed that the Ambassador had advised all U.K. nationals whose presence was not required, to leave while normal services were operating.

Mr. Philip Goodhart (Croydon and Beckenham) queried whether it was right the Western Community to seem to "stand completely" while Beirut is blown to

# Left fears weakening on U.K. energy seat

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

FEARS THAT the Government is preparing to drop its insistence on separate British representation from other EEC countries at the world energy conference, to be held in Paris in December, were voiced by Left-wing Labour backbenchers in the Commons yesterday.

Mr. Dennis Skinner (Lab., Bolsover) suggested that the Government was in the process of backing down, and the issue was taken up in more direct terms by Mr. Eric Heffer (Lab., Walton), who pressed for a clear statement that there would be no compromise.

After referring to reports emanating from Paris, he urged Mr. James Callaghan, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, to say there would be a firm stand by the Government, and that we will have our own seat at that very important conference.

Mr. Callaghan's initial reaction was to refuse to comment on Press reports, except to say that he had made no approaches to Mr. Maudling.

Other Governments, but he went on to say: "If anyone has any proposals to put to us about that matter I shall, of course, consider them."

Mr. Reginald Maudling, "shadow" Foreign Secretary, then stressed that Britain had an interest both in North Sea oil and the cohesion of the EEC, and maintained that there should be the maximum effort to reconcile these differing British interests.

Mr. Callaghan answered that he did not know whether it was possible to reconcile them or not.

He suggested that it was for Britain's EEC partners to come forward with proposals which we would be glad to entertain and observe.

But so far as the future of the Community was concerned, he had seen it come through worse conflicts, when much stronger language had been used.

Mr. Callaghan's initial reaction was to refuse to comment on Press reports, except to say that he had made no approaches to

Mr. John Biffen (C. Oswestry), claimed that the last Conservative election manifesto had emphasised the importance of Britain retaining control over North Sea oil, and argued that the Foreign Secretary's attempt to secure legitimate national interests should command the support of both sides of the House.

Mr. Callaghan underlined the fact that there had been no attempt so far to seize control of British oil. "I think that should be made clear in fairness to our Community partners."

What was being discussed was the appropriate representation at the energy conference. It was a procedural question and the House had still to be settled.

Mr. Edward Taylor (C. Cathcart) warned that Britain's credibility would be destroyed if Mr. Callaghan were to emulate the old Duke of York and sell out after having first stood firm on the matter.

## Government throws out Lords changes to Employment Bill

BY JUSTIN LONG, PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

Callaghan said he was in Middle East, Europe, and J.S. "So far we have not yet taken any action which could be taken by us now," he said.

Mr. Ronald Maudling, "shadow" Foreign Secretary, noting that Lebanon was in a dire and terrible situation, said Opposition support for leaving Mr. Callaghan might try to help the situation.

### Banking law legislation

LEGISLATION is to be introduced by the Government in Britain to meet the demand of the proposed directive on banking law or authorisation of deposit institutions. Mr. Edmund Astmayer, General, told the Commons yesterday.

"In the light of this directive, and experience of the domestic financial market in recent years, the Government has decided in principle to introduce legislation to introduce legislation to meet this requirement.

The form and timing of the legislation are still under consideration and will be announced as soon as possible."

THE GOVERNMENT last night set about reversing major changes made by the Lords to the Employment Protection Bill.

In doing so, Ministers rejected bitter Opposition accusations that they were truckling to the TUC in the provision of "Donegald" benefit to the unions which bore unfairly on employers.

Mr. Barney Hayhoe, Opposition employment spokesman, charged Ministers with adopting a "classical" partisan attitude.

They were denying employers equal treatment with the unions, said Mr. Hayhoe. "The Government seems unwilling to act in furtherance of any view except that of the unions. This isn't an Employment Protection Bill at all. It's a Trade Union Benefit Bill."

Its provisions were part of the payment the Government was having to make to the unions for their support elsewhere," the Opposition spokesman contended.

But the first of the main alterations inserted in the Bill by the Lords was thrown out by a Government majority of 36 (277-222) a majority which must have added to the growing confidence of Ministers that prospects of a Lords Committee change over major legislation is now diminishing.

This first amendment on which the Government had in the way would have given employers the

right to refer a recognition sensitive plan to the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

But Mr. Albert Booth, Minister of State, Employment, maintained that the Lords' provision was unnecessary and unhelpful.

The Government had another substantial majority when it rejected the "disclosure clause" have contested.

Although companies would now be required by law to disclose some information to unions it would be concerned with collective bargaining. Its disclosure would not usually have any significant effect on

THEIR rights to refer a recognition sensitive plan to the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Mr. John Fraser, Employment Under-Secretary, maintained that price sensitive information had not been the problem that opponents of the Government's

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# The Marketing Scene

## Airbus is Procters

**ADVERTISING** for the European Airbus, from which the Government withdrew British participation, is to be handled in such of the world by a U.K. agency, Jordan Procter and Partners, Procters and its U.S. associate agency Wilson Hight and Welch have been appointed by Airbus Industrie of Toulouse to create advertising from January 1 for 3 countries.

The budget is likely to be around \$1m. Wilson Hight will look after the American contract and Procter, the rest of the brief. A joint creative approach is being formulated by the two agencies. Around 20 Airbuses we already been ordered.

THE Location of Offices Bureau has switched its advertising account, worth around £85,000, in KMP to Foster Turner and son.

PETER MAYLE, ex-PKL, ex-DO, before going to the U.S. and making a fortune as an author, is back writing ads—Streetlife. Streetlife is a new brightly magazine aimed at more intelligent youth market.

It aims to base its market the 70,000 readers who have opted taking the top musical stars in the last two years plus Rolling Stone buyers deterred by American bias.

Streetlife is getting a \$45,000 advertising launch starting this week, with a heavy radio cam-

pa. Mayle, who is acting as consultant to the paper, has written the copy.

THIS has been a good week DFS Dorland Fortune, the wide advertising group which has Dorlands as its U.K. agency. The major operation, after Fitzgerald Sample of New York, has won the Toyota unit in the U.S., which is £20m. In South Africa, Wood Advertising has set up the Barlow Appliance Co., Kelvinator and Sunbeam at £125,000, and the firm that sports Tic Tac, Lindt and Cadbury and Bowser.

A Swedish DDF agency has AB Factum-Bultker and its branch is working on a children's encyclopaedia called Fabbri. Nigel Seeley left executive of the international network.

THE advertising world is slowly becoming aware of pressures for change in the current structure of television, newspaper and magazine audience research which obviously greatly influences a large part of the £600m spent annually on media advertising. Such research forms the basis for advertisers and agencies to plan and buy their media schedules and for media owners to sell theirs. But now financial pressure, sharper sectional self-interest and the sheer need for change are coming together to force a reappraisal as the major research contracts come up for renewal.

At present the Press, posters, television and radio each has its own controlling committee made up of representatives from advertisers, advertising agencies, and the media. They produce information almost exclusively about their own medium; there is very little useful overlapping, and it's all "head counting"—how many people of different age or social groups are in the audience. There is no attempt to probe the strengths of advertising to "communicate" in a particular medium.

As a result the major research we have is good—despite the envy of the world—but understandably, such a system has encouraged almost a total emphasis on head counting. The individual media have kept themselves to themselves and innovation in output has been minimal.

To examine the current system and to see whether any consensus for change was possible, 160 experts recently met in Cambridge at a Conference organised by Admap. Financing, control and content were all on the agenda.

A major consideration was that, in addition to industry research, there are a large number of commercial surveys (the Target Group Index and Television Consumer Audit, for example) collecting product data as well as some media information.

In total it is estimated that something like three-quarters of a million interviews are carried out a year, plus a similar number by the BBC, and there are more than 45,000 members of panels who remain-



Robert Sanders (left) and Robert Jones with some of the research data which floods media men's desks.

supply information on what they people want things to remain as view or buy. Is this all excessive? Could some of the interviews be put together to show cost savings in these difficult times?

Attitudes to the present state of media research vary considerably. Among the advertisers and agencies, who can afford to take a broader view of their media, there are many shades of thought. At one end there has been a move, outlined as far back as 1967 by the IPA, to link all the existing pieces together into a comprehensive giant jigsaw. This has now been considerably modified and for the time being, no firm proposal seems likely.

However, the idea of integration is one which is attractive but vision companies, who foot the major part of the £500,000 plus annual television research bill, which doesn't seem to work out too well in practice. At the other end a lot of are already looking round for

economies and are testing different head-counting techniques with the BBC who up to partite control (the media, the advertiser, the agency). We have kept aloof from commercial interests. Surprisingly seen the dangers in the U.S. the TV companies do not seem to have consulted either advertisers or agencies, many of whom have strong beliefs about television research, and it would be a pity if this move heralded any breaking down of the tripartite system.

The major influence on change is obviously going to be cost. A London Business School mathematical model showed how these will increase out of proportion to advertising revenue over the next few years. Against this background one disputed that the first need is to ensure that the industry continues to have enough data to maintain a competitive market place. The real question is in agreeing what is "enough". Is there too much repetitive information which makes wasteful demands on the industry's finances and channels are engaged too narrowly? For example, in television audience research expresses the need for the sponsors of each service to meet together.

It was disappointing, too, that the old barriers between media (headcounting) research and advertising (communication) research are still as apparent as ever. To make any headway, advertising agencies and media must learn more about the different communication abilities of different media and devise a better understanding of their capabilities.

Out of the conference came a very much clearer understanding of the dangers and opportunities. What may appear to be short-term issues of cost will have long-term implications, for what is given up now will not return later. It is for this reason that the sharpest focus for attention is the television audience research (JCTAR) which ends in 1977. Advertisers want to retain minute by minute audience figures. They need to assess the value they are getting from the individual television companies regionally. We may see a sharp difference of opinion between the different interests, and television advertisers would do well to ensure they keep up with the discussion over the next few months.

Perhaps the least satisfactory part of the Admap Conference was its concentration on the negative aspects of change. In accepting economies are there not opportunities to lay the foundations for positive change by reappraising the situation of industry research, while retaining many of its better aspects?

## Fine Fare welcome for new products

BY ANTONY THORNCROFT, MARKETING EDITOR

ONE OF the oddest features of the current crisis is that it does not seem to have hit new products more tend to involve packaging, recipe, or marketing changes rather than a completely new brand. Modifications are very much cheaper than the full investment and risk that is inevitable with innovation. Wolsey also reckons that the failure rate remains much too high, despite the vast battery of testing methods now available. In practice the old fashioned test market has virtually disappeared: companies rely on mini-test operations, or simulated supermarkets, or test towns, and then, if the results are favourable, commit themselves to a "roll out" launch across the country.

### Store tests

To these traditional testing methods Fine Fare has added store tests. It is not new—Nielsen can offer similar facilities in a range of shops—but it is very attractive to manufacturers, in that their brands get their initial exposure in one of the most important multiple chains in the U.K. But, as Wolsey is quick to point out, having a product accepted for a store test is no guarantee at all that Fine Fare will take it for regular stocking if it is a success. The buying department keeps a completely open mind.

Peter Kraushar, who monitors new product launches for the marketing monthly Mintel, can produce an extensive list: Borris Cubes, Heinz Noodle Doodles spaghetti shapes, Jamaica Ginger Creams from United Biscuits, Baby Ribena and Cider Shandy from Beechams, Fudge Mix and Two Shakes Mix from Kellogg's, Embassy American, both regular and king size, and Kensitas Club Mid, Dixie Menthol Tissues from British Tissues, and Syphes from Syphon. All these products have gone on to commercial success.

So far the stores used, which average between ten and twenty in each test, are located in the south and midlands, but Fine Fare is now extending the coverage so that clients can evaluate different areas of the country.

Fine Fare gives the manufacturers the shelf space and then lets them get on with it, although it likes the products to be sold at a reasonable price with a reasonable profit rather than on excessive special offers. Fine Fare can afford to be selective in the products it accepts for testing. Apart from wanting to improve the success rate of new products, it also sees its service as helping it in its buying decisions on new products for often manufacturers over-reckons that there is little sell their brands.

## All change at Y & R

BY PAMELA JUDGE

FIFTY-EIGHT suggestions for improving agency Young and Rubicam, that came up through the grass roots are now being put into effect by the management: a further 14 have been approved in principle (but need time to develop); six require more study; and nine were rejected.

This upsurge is not a result of wild demands for workers' participation, but comes from a series of Task Forces initiated by Joe De Deo when he took over as head of the London and of Y and R 13 months ago. Everybody was asked to send in their ideas—the intention being "To take a long, hard look at ourselves, to sort out what we were doing right from what we could do better, and to do something about the latter."

Nine broad subjects of interest were sorted out from the input

and each was given a Task Force—for example, one group looked at corporate objectives, another covered diversification, and there were two on communications (internal and external). The 60 people involved produced 400 page of documentation.

Thirty of the recommendations being implemented could roughly be classified as internal—they range from a "lunch facility for staff," through hand-held hair dryers for the girls who get their hair wet on their travels, to annual meetings between staff and the trust fund trustees and regular open meetings between staff and management. There are also schemes for a personal tax and mortgage advice service and the appointment of an ombudsman.

What might be called the external relations side includes a decision to concentrate the reception services centre for agencies if people are not in their offices, and a different system for conference rooms. There are also projects to widen the range of documents for promotion pieces, review charges to clients for ancillary services, and to invite clients to see the agency show reel.

Longer-term activities embrace preparation for the times when the basis for agency payment changes, setting up a group to investigate diversification (although it would still be in the scope of advertising), and a search for a way to handle smaller accounts.

The reasons for rejecting ideas are often on the basis of cost. An increase of the value of luncheon vouchers was put down because of the tax situation, a staff shop was out not only on a cost basis but also because of inability to buy at competitive prices, and a bank of creative ideas was rejected partly on the grounds that it might lead to second-hand thoughts. "Somebody had to be joking" with the idea of buying a shoe polisher at £35.

At a time when most agencies are looking for economies in every area Y and R's exercise might look expensive. But Joe De Deo says it is all within budgets. And it is a forward look.

### Company brochures

Do your customers know enough about your company?

FMT provide a complete company publications service: planning, writing, design, and production. We prepare everything from prestige brochures to staff literature. Ask for full details or for a preliminary discussion.

FMT Editorial and Writing Services Ltd  
Agents House, Evershot Street  
London SW1P 2QP. or 028 828 272  
Also in Edinburgh

### 65 WILL BE A GREAT YEAR FOR DINNER PARTIES.

of Distinction. Tawny Port aged ten years in the wood.

### IS YOUR ADVERTISING AGENCY STANDING SOMETHING IMPORTANT FROM YOU?

This week, more than 217,000 people will read the Investors Chronicle. They will be wealthier than average. More influential than average. And more likely than average to be in the market for drink, cars, houses, holidays, air tickets and other commodities.

Yet the odds are that your company's product and corporate advertising isn't appearing in these pages.

Next time you meet your agency to discuss the media plan, we think you might like to have some of the facts at your fingertips.

The fact that the IC is one of the two most economical ways of reaching AB men earning at least £4,000 a year after tax, pension contributions etc.

The fact that the IC is uniquely trusted by its readers, making it the ideal medium for corporate advertising aimed at increasing awareness among investors and decision makers.

And the fact that by adding the IC to almost any schedule armed up market, you can reach your target audiences more often and less wastefully, while actually reducing overall cost.

If you'd like some more facts, either for yourself or your agency, please call Tony Broke-Smith on 01-628 4050, or write to him at Investors Chronicle, Freepost, London EC2B 2XY.

We probably should have made the point years ago.

But then again, there's probably never been a better year to make it.

### INVESTORS CHRONICLE

Makes sense of finance, investment and business. Now, more than ever, you need it.



## The Southern difference

More than one in five Southerners went shopping in London during the last year.\*

Big-spending Southerners go a long way to get what they want. Nearly one-third of them, for instance, shop in London of some time—21% within the last year. Ours is a mobile, expanding, affluent population which beats the National Average on most counts. From freezers to wine. Make sure you influence their buying decisions wherever the spending occurs.

### SOUTHERN TELEVISION

Contact Brian Henry, Marketing and Sales Director, Southern Television Limited, Glen House, Stag Place, London SW1E SAX Tel: 01-834 4404.

\*Southern survey, Oct 74-Jan 75



# Why import controls mean higher prices

THE harmless amusement of costs is likely to increase to be obtained at the Price control, operating on a cost-plus basis will be no help reports that the TUC was here: the model of what is to prevent an open clash likely to happen is a nationalised industry such as the Post Office, artificially guaranteed t import controls. A against competition.

As any Government is likely to respond to a high rate of inflation with tighter demand management policies than would otherwise be required (tighter in real terms), unemployment would also be increased. It is thus certain that import controls would raise prices and reduce consumer living standards, and highly likely that any benefit to employment would be quickly reversed.

## Surprised

The severity of the domestic recession can in no way be attributed to imports taking a larger share of the home market. A rising ratio of imports to domestic expenditure has for long been regarded as a structural feature of the British economy, immune to demand or exchange rate influences. Yet as the NIESR chart shows, the ratio reached a peak in the middle of 1973, from which it has since been falling. Imports of industrial materials may have been hit especially hard by recent sharp de-stocking and the oil price rise has reduced fuel imports. But we are still left with the fact that imports of finished manufactures have fallen as a proportion of domestic spending on durables and plant and machinery since the middle of 1974. It is doubtful if the rise in imports in the third quarter of the year has reversed the new trend.

Indeed, the National Institute of Economic Research has recently been revised to show that whatever else they raise prices and inflationary in the sense of the word.

## ersed

all, the main reason imports are demanded is that they are cheaper—or better value for money—than the more expensive alternatives. Nor is the effect ill. For if home market is guaranteed, the present cost reduction are and the long run trend

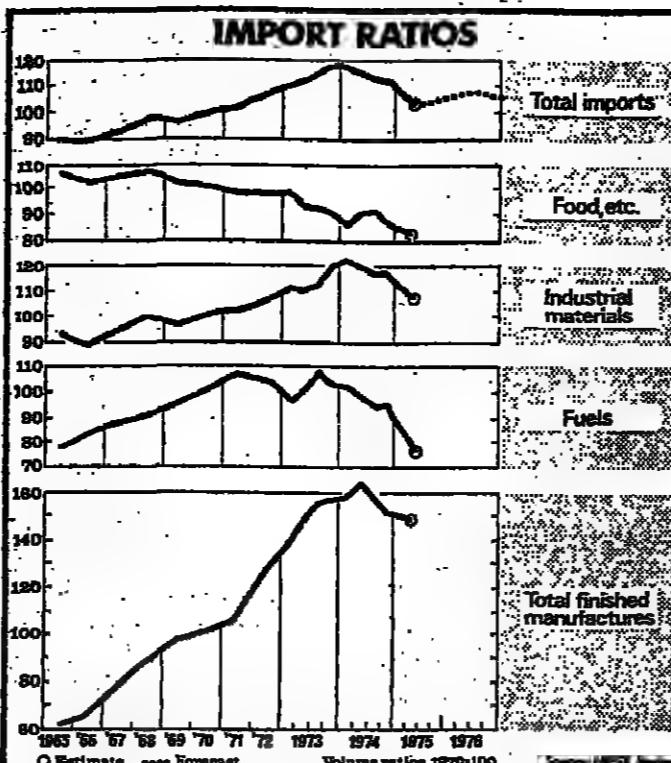
has been surprised at just how low imports have been. The view that imports are unresponsive to relative price changes—and therefore to exchange depreciation—which of the import controllers have depended for even a smattering of intellectual respectability, has gone right out of the window. Import volume in the first half of 1975 was even lower than could be explained by the Institute's new view that imports of manufactured goods fall by 0.8 per cent for every 1 per cent increase in their price.

Mr. Shore's latest outburst has emphasised that the Government is actively interested in selective import controls. But more senior ministers have up till now resisted the case for major restrictions designed to boost the balance of payments or "reflate" the home economy. An OECD pledge not to extend controls was renewed by the British Government earlier this year, subject to two conditions. The first was that sufficient international finance be available to cover the U.K. overseas deficit. The second was that there be an adequate demand boost in countries with payments surpluses.

## Take risks

The first condition has certainly been fulfilled, even if British Ministers do not like the terms on which IMF help would be available. As for the second, Mr. Harold Wilson has already indicated that he will press other countries to pump more spending power into their economies at the six power Summit in November.

The British case really boils down to the view that other world trade upturn is quite im-



The curve for total imports shows their ratio to total final expenditure; that for food, beverages and tobacco the ratio to consumer spending in that sector; that for industrial materials the ratio to manufacturing production; that for fuels the ratio to GDP; and that for total finished manufactures the ratio to consumers' expenditure on durables and fixed investment in plant and machinery.

countries should take risks with possible to predict; but if British ministers lose patience in international organisations and resort to widespread controls, the losses will be the British public.

Far too much is being made of the danger of retaliation in the popular debate. It is quite

decided that the U.K. is like a duties is not a true measure of protectionism and not worth its vigilance, as in the majority retaliating against. The real of cases offenders voluntarily argue against controls is to restrict their sales and domestic one that they would or raise their prices. This pro-makes the patient's condition cures not only that the price level to the British con-

Some of the snags about some goes up, but that the import controls can be seen in terms of trade are raised against the selective areas where this country. As Professor Jan ministers are already committed to act. Official speeches have GATT, put it in a recent dis-

not distinguished clearly cussion paper, where there are anti-dumping action quota restrictions "the difference between the cif import and emergency measures to prevent injury to domestic price" and the domestic price industries provided for under Article 19 of GATT and in the firms which obtain import Treaty of Rome. Indeed, it is licences. But when foreign remarkable that for all the countries or industries exercise hiving and puffing, neither the voluntary restraint "the price U.K. nor most other industrial countries have so far invoked Article 19 at all.

If talk without action continues much longer about selective import controls, Whitehall will begin to worry about the forestalling action by importers. This is the main argument for deciding how much is politically unavoidable and introducing it in a single package rather than proceeding on a case by case basis. But unless the package is smaller than now seems likely, I would favour risking the forestalling and spinning out the discussions as long as possible.

The least harmful promise, if action is unavoidable, would in my view be import deposits at moderate levels. Such deposits are easier to remove than quotas or "voluntary restraints" on individual politically sensitive products. Their protective impact wears off over time; and, as the Italians recently discovered, the most important aspect of such a scheme is its impact on domestic credit expansion. As the latter will have to be curbed in any case, we might as well gain this advantage rather than inflict the pure harm on the domestic economy which would be involved in any other kind of import control. But best of all, as so often, would be to do nothing at all.

## Embarrassing

An embarrassing matter for any British minister having to defend selective controls in an international forum is that imports of many of the sensitive items have fallen. Imports of textiles and television tubes have dropped even in short and as crisis-prone as the

Whitehall justifiably claims that the number of anti-dumping and maximum "import penetra-

Martin (R. P.), Great Eastern Hotel, E.C. 11.30  
Smith Brothers Limited, Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate Place, E.C. 12.30  
Southern Kina Consolidated, 58, Moorgate E.C. 12.

EXHIBITIONS  
Environmental Health Congress and Exhibition ends, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

Leisure and Outdoor Furniture Exhibition ends, Royal Lancaster Hotel, W.2.

MUSIC  
New Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor Paul Tortelier, with Mirei Lancovici and Reiner Hockmuth (cellos) play Berlioz overture Le Corsair, Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo Theme, Boccherini's cello concerto in B, and Debussy's La Mer, Royal Festival Hall, S.E.1, 8 p.m.

Cecil Aronowitz (violin) and Nicola Gruber (piano) play Schubert's sonata in E flat, Schubert's sonata in F minor, and works by Schumann and Britten, Wigmore Hall, W.1, 7.30 p.m.

## To-day's Events

**GENERAL**  
Prime Minister meets TUC leaders at 10 Downing Street to hear their views on selective import controls.  
European Council of Ministers meets, Rome.  
EEC Agricultural Ministers end two-day meeting, Luxembourg.  
Dr. John Gilbert, Transport Minister, meets British Rail management and union leaders to discuss railways' future, London.  
Mr. Peter Shore, Trade Secretary, continues European tour covering Paris, Rome, Bonn, Brussels and The Hague.  
Ulster Constitutional Convention continues Stormont Castle.  
Dr. David Owen, Minister for Health and Social Security, speaks at Royal Society of Health meeting, Royal Westminster Hotel, S.W.1.  
President Sadat of Egypt continues official visit to Saudi Arabia and Philippines.  
Lord Ryder, chairman, National Enterprise Board Organising Committee, addresses Young Chartered Accountants' Group, Chartered Accountants' Hall, E.C.2.  
Royal Commission on Press takes evidence from Guild of British Newspaper Editors.  
Dr. David Owen, Minister for Health and Social Security, speaks at Royal Society of Health meeting, Royal Westminster Hotel, S.W.1.  
President Sadat of Egypt continues official visit to Saudi Arabia and Philippines.  
West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt continues visit to China.  
Shah of Iran on five-day State visit to Turkey.

**PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS**  
House of Commons: Policy-Holders Protection Bill and Local Land Charge Bill, remaining stages.  
House of Lords: Consideration of Common's amendments to Industry Bill and Scottish Development Agency (No. 2) Bill.

**OFFICIAL STATISTICS**  
Energy trends.  
Bricks and cement production (September).

**COMPANY RESULTS**  
Bank of Ireland (half-year).  
James Finlay (half-year).  
Globe and Mail (quarter).  
Wm. Press and Son (half-year).  
Sheepbridge Engineering (half-year).

**COMPANY MEETINGS**  
Decca, Winchester House, E.C. 12.  
Dunlop (Thame) Grayhounds, 16, St. Martin's-le-Grand, E.C. 12.

# One Scotch Whisky has the edge for smoothness. Can you name it?



HERE ARE A COUPLE OF CLUES.

## Letters to the Editor

### Op silver bowl

H. Leggett.

A report (October 17) on a girl bowl bought at "silver" sale for 10s and owned at Sotheby's for £100 demonstrates the problem of valuing art.

This problem, however, is ignored by the Arts Mr. Hugh Edwards' correspondence (October 25) in any of the inclusion of art in a wealth tax advice of all informed opinion.

In particular instance at recently been valued at different figures. First, a credit basis with whom? Not only are we all becoming unpaid tax collectors; it appears that we have to pay over taxes which we haven't even received.

Margaret Grant,  
London Secularist,  
70, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

### Credit, who dares?

From Margaret Grant.

Sir.—Para. 39 of the VAT General Guide (Notice No. 700) states: "Bad debts VAT cannot be waived on a taxable supply on the ground that the taxpayer person has not received the due payment from his customer, whatever steps he may have taken to recover the debt."

Who dares to do business on a credit basis with whom? Not only are we all becoming unpaid tax collectors; it appears that we have to pay over taxes which we haven't even received.

Margaret Grant,  
London Secularist,  
70, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Voluntary £6 limit

From Mr. S. W. Penfold.

Sir.—Mr. T. R. R. O'Connor (October 27) is apparently under a common misapprehension that the £6 limit is law.

I have it on the authority of the Department of Employment that (a) There are no statutory limits on salary increases. (b) The policy to restrict increases to £6 a week is a voluntary one; (c) Not to conform would be against a policy for which there is a large measure of public support; (d) Failure to conform (with a voluntary policy) would render the payer (in Mr. O'Connor's case the Ministry) liable to sanctions. The brackets are mine.

The sanctions referred to are the withholding of permission to make price increases. In the case of the hospitals what prices and to whom?

S. W. Penfold,  
158, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

g, going

J. R. Vincent.

M. Elliman argues in favour of "subsidy of works of art" as an element of imbalance of payments. us come true and we art at the rate of 10% a month for him to maintain the balance?

And how many could it take to make it?

ut, of History, Bristol.

rial Building, d.

alth

V. Beckley

Elliman assumes that, if I have cash to buy works of art, I am prevented by a the cash will automatically be devoted to "protection purposes." That is that on another base that we are all concerned by increasing our in obtaining capital is pure materialism, he delightful expression holder," matches base that are all concerned by increasing our in obtaining capital is pure materialism, he delightful expression holder," matches

ings based on such coming home to roost after 18 months or so realistic losses made in the most respectable by the newer (?) cutives.

### The price of milk

From Mr. J. Baker White.

Sir.—Is there not a quite simple way of convincing housewives that in relation to its food value, a pint of milk is still very, very cheap? It is to invite them to ask their husbands how much they pay for a pint of beer. Three pints of milk cost approximately the same as one pint of beer. Am I being unfair to other husbands if I point out that beer consumption is running at a very high, if not record, level? On the basis of average retail prices and average hourly earnings it requires just under five minutes to earn the price of a pint of milk and 18 minutes to earn the price of a pint of beer.

John Baker White,  
Street End Farms,  
Street End Place,  
Nr. Canterbury, Kent.

### Merits of tax relief

From Mr. E. Palamountain.

Sir.—Mr. Douglas Jay's interesting survey (October 17) of the credit inflation of 1973/73 contained a mis-statement which is important to overstate. "Indiscriminate tax relief" he says, for over-investment (not indeed in housing purchases) was also introduced in this period.

Quite apart from the criticism implicit in the use of the word "indiscriminate" (repeated later in the article), it is not correct to say that the tax relief concerned was "introduced" during the period. What Mr. Heath did (and it is right to name him because he put his personal authority behind it) was to restore the historic position, which had obtained right up to the Finance Act of 1969.

As to the merits of the tax relief, it seems unlikely that the arguments will ever be settled, but it certainly cannot be taken for granted that the present position is here to stay. To many of your readers it will seem at least reasonable—that if interest receivable on money lent attracts tax, then interest payable on money borrowed should repeat it.

Edgar Palamountain,  
Three Quays, Tower Hill, E.C.3.

### Reasonable insulation

From Mr. E. Ambrose.

Sir.—The Department of the Environment has issued its direction designed to forgive all those wicked home dwellers who have broken the law for 16 years by insulating their cavity walls, as well as to encourage patriotic citizens who, from November 3, would like to heed the Government's expensive advertising campaign urging energy conservation.

The regulation is described as easing an unreasonable situation. But does it? The installer must, rightly, still adhere to the rigorous terms of Government-sponsored agreement certificates permitting dry insulation such as mineral wool to be used in any weather zone, restricting both types to three storeys; but he must now survey the building in order to make a solemn

From Mr. P. Trench.  
Sir.—You have published a number of letters on the subject of the Community Land Bill but none, so far as I have followed the correspondence, has referred to the method of disposal of land to house-builders once it has been taken into public ownership.

If public accountability and the natural desire of local authorities to maximise their funds dictate that such land, or a licence to build on it, should be put up to auction and sold at the highest price, does this not mean that the cost to the house-builder will have to be passed on to those who purchase the houses? Or is there some clever formula whereby both the local authority and the purchaser will be able to share the benefit of the difference between what the former pays for the land and what the latter sells it for? In commerce, we refer to profit?

Peter Trench,  
33 Elm Tree Road,  
St. John's Wood, N.W.8.

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Peter Trench,  
33 Elm Tree Road,  
St. John's Wood, N.W.8.

# COMPANY NEWS + COMMENT

## TR still looks for similar profit

THE DIRECTORS of Telephone Rentals are still of the opinion that results for 1975 will be much in line with the previous year—when profits reached £7.45m.—despite the marked deterioration in the economic climate over the past months.

In the first half of the current year profit has risen slightly from £3.55m. to £3.57m. New sale business taken during the first nine months has continued at a high level; new rental business has shown some falling off, as anticipated.

First half 1974 figures have been increased for comparative purposes to allow for adjustments made in the full 1974 accounts, and include the effect of variations in foreign exchange rates.

First half Year  
1974 1973  
£'000 £'000  
Rental turnover 5,591 5,154 12,581  
Salvage, etc. 3,217 2,424 7,639  
Total 8,808 7,575 20,220  
Profit before tax 1,572 1,572 7,455  
Taxation 1,257 1,317 2,663  
Net profit 2,233 2,233 4,780  
Minority interest 10 10  
After tax 2,227 2,221 4,770

\* After depreciation £1.44m. (11.4m.) and £1.44m. \*\* Includes U.K. charge £1.00m. (same as £1.44m.). There has been transferred £1.39m. (£1.42m. and £1.22m.) to restricted reserve not included in figures.

The net interim dividend is held at 1.25p per 25p share; total for 1974 was 4.77p.

### ● comment

Telephone Rentals expects its level-peaking interim performance to extend for the whole of 1975. After six months there has been solid volume growth in sales fittings and the guesses are that higher profits here (say 40 per cent of the total historically) have been offset by the slowdown in rental where there are problems with inflation among the older, fixed price contracts. It will probably be another year or so before never-increased contracts can start to determine the profits course of the division. Meanwhile, the group still has no borrowings, and at 8.92p the shares yield 7.3 per cent, covered twice by 1974 earnings.

Statement Page 22

## Investment & Property Holdings

A PRE-TAX loss of £1.05m., against a profit of £3.05m., was incurred by Investment and Property Holdings in the year to April 30, 1973, and there is no dividend, compared with a net total of 1.15p for the previous year.

The loss per 25p share is shown at 18.17p (earned 4.04p) or 16.53p (4.27p) fully diluted.

The loss is arrived at after writing off interest £267,000 (£303,000) and after losses of £303,000 (nil).

Turnover 1973 1972-74  
£'000 £'000 £'000  
Off interest 2,635 2,635 2,635  
Carrying losses 647 647 647  
Pre-tax loss 1,050 1,050 1,050  
Taxation 78 105 105  
Net loss 1,125 1,125 1,125  
After tax 1.125 1.125 1.125

A profit of £1.05m. from the undistributable reserve £12.02m. (16.02m.) ordinary credit £36.80m. (18.02m.) minorities debit £1.00m. (credit £4.00m.) but after tax £1.05m. (undistributable reserve £3.05m. (nil)).

Net asset value per share is shown at 14.15p.

### INDEX TO COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS

Company	Page	Col.	Company	Page	Col.
Allied Irish Banks	21	4	Investment & Property	20	1
Assoc. Leisure	20	3	Ireland (Ernest)	20	5
Beckman (A.)	21	5	Jones (Maurice)	21	8
Black Arrow	22	7	Kay-Bevan	20	5
BPB Industries	21	1	Kwik Save	21	3
Caird (A.)	20	2	Lawson Securities	21	7
Caravans Internl.	21	8	Oxley Printing	20	6
Copydex	21	3	Queen St. Warehouse	21	3
Graig Shipping	21	7	Shiloh Spinners	20	6
Gresham House Est.	20	6	Smart (J.)	20	2
Headcrest Invests.	21	4	Starbrite Engng.	22	4
Headlam Sims	21	2	Telephone Rentals	20	1
Highland Distilleries	21	6	Utd. City Merchants	20	4

## J. Smart well on target

AGAINST A forecast of not less than £800,000, J. Smart (Contractors), engaged in building and public works, has turned in profits of £264,482 for the year ended July 31, 1973.

When making their forecasts in May, the directors said that operations had been relatively free from interruptions. Loss-making fixed price contracts were largely out of the way, and provisions had been made to cover all known and prospective losses.

The final dividend is 2.1275p per 10p share, which aggregating 575,508 have been received on the total dividend. In 1972-73 the payment was 2.7040p from profits of £501,255.

After tax £65,674 (£241,983), the 1973-74 net profit came out at £63,508 against £259,267. Earnings are stated at 9.2p compared with 5.1p.

### ● comment

J. Smart has finally lifted itself off the plateau to which it slumped in 1972-73. Loss-making fixed price contracts have apparently been the greatest problem in the last few years and the elimination of these has enabled the group to lift its 1972-73 pre-tax level by 85 per cent. The group, which is entirely involved in Scotland, appears to be enjoying a fairly high level of activity particularly on local authority housing, and its current work load is running at roughly the same level, in volume terms, as it was this time last year. Moreover, the group's balance sheet looks strong at the moment with cash balances totalling about £1.3m. (against £722,000 in July 1974) and no borrowings. So although the current year is proving to be one of consolidation rather than expansion, the shares at 9.2p, yielding 5.7 per cent, covered 2.1 times, look reasonably good value.

Turnover 1973 1972-74  
£'000 £'000 £'000  
Gross sales 1,053 1,053 1,053  
Less trade interest 6,943 6,943 6,943  
Pre-tax profit 2,233 2,233 2,233  
Taxation 78 105 105  
Net profit 1,125 1,125 1,125  
After tax 1.125 1.125 1.125

A profit of £1.125m. from the undistributable reserve £12.02m. (16.02m.) ordinary credit £36.80m. (18.02m.) minorities debit £1.00m. (credit £4.00m.) but after tax £1.125m. (nil).

Net asset value per share is shown at 14.15p.

## A. Caird profit

Sales of tailors, outfitters, general drapers and furriers, A. Caird Sons, increased from £725,000 to £879,900 for the half year to July 31, 1973, and there was a net profit of £7,000, against a net profit of £7,000, against the limited

growth potential of the present range of activities, and one response to this might be an earnings based acquisition. In the meantime, the group has probably reached the limit of its market manoeuvres to build up shareholders' funds now that it has bought out the Holmark minority. The price of the loan stock has moved against AL (witness the fall in extraordinary credits on loan stock cancellations) and the next move might well be an issue of AL paper on a larger scale than the Holmark deal. At 26.1p, the prospective yield is 13 per cent.

## UCM shows some reduction

IN THE year ended June 30, 1973, United City Merchants has maintained the overall increase for the nine months to October 31, 1973, which has fallen to 15.5 per cent, against the 22 per cent increase for the half year, the directors state.

Mr. R. C. Sosnow reports:

Sales came out at £127.52m. (£138.76m.) and profits were £1.72m. against £1.85m. The year saw the international timber trade change from a seller's to a buyer's market with both prices and volume of sales falling very substantially.

Similar conditions were experienced in the international hide and leather trade, although the fall in this area was not as steep.

Because of its widespread activities and elasticity the group managed to recover most of these profit reductions. The main sources of increased income and profits were the international motor trade, engineering animal by-products, banking, confirming and shipping services.

The dividend is raised from 9.84p to 10.06p net per 10p share, with a final of 0.416p. A one-for-five scrip issue to holders registered December 1 is 10p.

Dividends shown pence per share net except where otherwise stated.

\* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue. † On November 10, 1973.

(b) For 44 weeks. (d) Expected that a final dividend will be paid.



Mr. Eric Cooper, chairman of Telephone Rentals.

### DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

	Date	Corre-	Total	Total
		payment	of spending	last
Allied Irish Bks	Int. 2.284(c)	—	—	£2.25
Associated Leisure	Int. 1.1	1.05	—	1.07(b)
BPB Industs	Int. 3.17	—	—	5.73
Caravans Internl.	Int. 0.2	—	—	0.2
Chancery Union Trust	Int. 0.56	0.56	—	1.81
Copydex	Int. 0.65	—	—	1.85
Graig Shipping	Int. 1.25	1.25	—	2.25
Gresham Hse, Esq. and Int.	Int. 1.5	1.5	2.45	5.75
Gresham Hse, Ltd.	Int. 1.4	—	—	3.2
Investment Prop. Holdings	NIL	—	—	—
James (Maurice)	Int. 0.95	0.95	—	1.15
Ernest Ireland	Int. NIL	—	—	—
Kwik Save Discount	Int. 2.35	Jan. 1. 1.9	2.36	2.36
London Tin	Int. 1.4	Dec. 19. 1.4	—	1.76
Shiloh Spinners	Int. 0.75	Dec. 6. 0.75	—	1.62
Telephone Rentals	Int. 1.25	Dec. 12. 2.02	2.06	2.77
Utd. City Merchants	Int. 0.42	Jan. 20. 0.32	1.62	1.62
H. Woodward	Int. 0.4	Dec. 5. 0.4	—	0.8

Dividends shown pence per share net except where otherwise stated.

\* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue.

(b) For 44 weeks. (d) Expected that a final dividend will be paid.

Its subsidiaries after efforts to either sell part or all of Kay-Ben, or to find alternative forms of finance, has failed. It is not clear what GRA's investment in Kay-Ben is likely to be worth.

Kay-Ben's subsidiaries include L. G. Bevan Construction, Kay-Ben Homes, Brookwood Brick, Flooring and Roofing (Contractors), Kempton Plumbing and Heating, James Painters and Coatings Investments. In each case Mr. Andrew Bevan, chairman, with Mr. H. E. McLaughlin or Mr. A. F. Dobson or M.S.C. Whitehead, are also partners of Peat-Mitchell, Birmingham.

Result of the poll depended solely on whether certain votes could be counted. The chairman was advised by leading and junior counsel that the votes ought to be rejected and accordingly the resolution would have been carried. As a result of the resolution depended solely on this point the chairman felt it right to put the matter before the High Court in proceedings already commenced by members of an association representing persons against the majority.

Proceedings finished yesterday and the Court held that the chairman would have been entitled to reject the proxies in question at or before the meeting but that as no other vote was taken as to the validity of the votes ought properly to be counted.

The Board is advised by leading and junior counsel that if there

is a further poll the chairman will be entitled to reject the proxies in question at or before the meeting but that as no other vote was taken as to the validity of the votes ought properly to be counted.

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It is now the first objective of your board to apply to the Stock Exchanges in London and Nairobi to try to arrange for stockholders to have the flexibility that they had before it decided whether or not to sell all or part of their holding.

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# Earnings growth for BPB Industries

ST-HALF pre-tax earnings of BPB Industries group have ended from £5.88m to £8.38m; stated basic earnings per 50p up from 8.2p to 13.5p. chairman Mr. N. M. Barrow said that subject to factors outside Board control results for the full year to March 1976, "should be ahead of last year at least by increase in earnings now stated." Uncertain economic conditions make it difficult to cast accurately, he points out, e-tax earnings last year were £m. and the per share figure

the net interim dividend payable on increased by last summer's rights issue, is lifted to 3.1p. A total of not more than the maximum permitted, £1.45m, has been made during the half year.

paper, paperboard and

plasterboard producer in France.

This involved an expenditure of £3.5m., borrowed overseas,

and the interest in Placoplate being increased to over 98 per cent.

The actual valuation of the state pension funds under the rights issue are already

proving beneficial.

Stated earnings per 50p share for the half year are shown at 8.45p (2.49p) or 2.50p after adjusting for the issue.

Half year  
1975 1974

Sales 1,916,137 1,816,400

Profit before tax 1,009 849

Taxation 1,030 837

Preference dividend 1,038 1,038

Net balance 97,457

Dividend Retained 833 833

Against advances 4,244 2,923

Half year  
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## INTERIM STATEMENTS

**Telephone Rentals**  
LIMITED  
Incorporated  
DICTOGRAPH TELEPHONES LIMITED  
OPERATING T. SERVICES

INTERIM STATEMENT FOR THE HALF YEAR  
ENDED 30th JUNE, 1975

On the 29th October the Directors declared an Interim Dividend of 5.0% (1974-5%) on the Ordinary Share Capital in respect of the year to the 31st December, 1975 payable on the 10th December, 1975 to the Shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 14th November, 1975, absorbing £88,127.

The Consolidated Profit Statement (unaudited) of the Group for the six months ended 30th June, 1975, is as follows:

	1975	1974	1973
Turnover:	6 months	6 months	12 months
Rental	£ 6,991,000	£ 6,154,000	£ 12,691,000
Sales and Other	5,017,000	3,854,000	10,480,000
	12,008,000	9,935,000	23,171,000
T.R. Group Profit before Taxation	2,572,000	3,546,000	7,435,000
Less: Estimated Taxation	1,237,000	1,317,000	2,660,000
Group Profit after Taxation	2,235,000	2,229,000	4,795,000
Less: Minority Interests	8,000	18,000	25,000
Balance of Profit attributable to Telephone Rentals Limited	2,227,000	2,211,000	4,770,000
Depreciations: Amounts charged in arriving at above Profit ...	1,443,000	1,303,000	2,582,000
Taxation:			
United Kingdom	1,058,000	1,056,000	2,137,000
Overseas	229,000	261,000	523,600
	1,287,000	1,317,000	2,660,000
Transfer to Tax Equalisation Reserve: Not included above	552,000	518,000	1,230,000

The figures for the 6 months to 30th June 1974 have been increased for comparative purposes to allow for adjustments made in the Annual Accounts for 1974 and include the effect of variations in foreign exchange rates during that year. United Kingdom taxation has been based on a Corporation Tax rate of 52.5% in both years.

Group Profits before Taxation for the first half of 1975 show a small increase compared with the first half of 1974. New sale business taken during the first nine months of this year has continued at a high level. New Rental business as anticipated in the Chairman's statement accompanying the 1974 Accounts, has shown some falling off laterly. Despite the marked deterioration in the economic climate over the past months, your Directors are still of the opinion that, as stated previously, the results for the year as a whole will be much in line with those for 1974.

## GREEN'S ECONOMISER GROUP LIMITED

Interim Results (unaudited) for the 6 months to 30th June, 1975

	Half year to 30th June 1975	Half year to 30th June 1974	Year ended 31st Dec. 1974
Turnover of the Group...	£4,776,103	£3,574,883	£3,141,323
Group Trading Profit ...	534,874	565,707	1,139,714
Interest Receivable .....	102,406	101,306	208,429
	937,280	667,013	1,348,143
Interest Payable .....	48,988	40,881	83,720
Group Profit before Taxation	886,294	638,123	1,264,423
Taxation (Estimated) ...	476,455	338,677	669,021
Profit after Taxation ...	£411,839	£267,445	£595,402
Earnings per share .....	6.50p	4.57p	9.48p

The confidence I expressed in my Statement of last April is borne out by the results for the half year to June, 1975, and, subject to unforeseen circumstances, the profit for the second half of the year should be similar.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.055p per 25p share (1974: 0.9883p). This interim dividend represents one half of the maximum amount of total dividend now permitted by the Government in respect of the full year and will absorb £67,038 (1974: £62,326).

S. L. Green, Chairman.

The full Statement contains details of the recent acquisition of an Ammonia business and copies are available from, The Secretary, Calder Vale Road, Wakefield, WF1 6PF.



## M P KENT LIMITED

PROPERTY AND HOUSING DEVELOPERS

Year ended 30th June	£	£
Sales	1,075	1974
Trading Profit	12,356,163	9,886,784
Rents Received	2,475,053	2,567,954
Interest Written Off	344,817	110,977
Profit Before Tax	1,108,891	914,979
Profit After Tax	1,171,319	1,104,852
Surplus Valuation on Property Investments completed during year to Capital Reserves	268,561	345,735
Profit before tax as % of Sales	13.8	17.8
Dividend % (Gross)	26.062	23.825
Earnings per Share after Tax	9.8p	8.7p

\* The annual rental income on prime property investments is now £514,000 - 70% growth (1974 £302,000).

\* Balanced gearing being maintained between property trading, investments and housing activities.

\* Overdrafts reduced by £2.4m during the year under review and adequate facilities remain available.

\* Housing activities have been maintained, completing and selling 622 residential units. House sales currently buoyant.

\* The Directors are proposing a final dividend of 18.6% gross, the maximum payable under the Counter Inflation (Dividends) Order 1973 as amended. The Final Dividend of 1.209p per share net will, subject to approval at A.G.M., be paid on the 12th December 1975.

\* I am again confident the shareholders funds represented by net tangible assets will show a further significant increase during the current year.

M. P. KENT Chairman

## MINING NEWS

## Mr. Hersov is bullish about Anglo-Vaal

BY LESLIE PARKER, MINING EDITOR

"WE ARE budgeting for increased years. Vulcan Minerals recalls in its latest quarterly report that in this financial year," is the overall has licensed the Greenbushes venture of Mr. Basil Hersov on company to mine and treat ore the prospects for South Africa's from July 1975 to 1978 for three years. Anglo-Vaal group in the 12 months to next June.

But he adds the general proviso that the improvement is dependent on the prices received for the group's widely diversified products, the availability of raw materials and its ability to keep ahead of the unusually rapid changes in economic conditions. In other words, Mr. Hersov understandably hedges his bets although it is at least something in these unsettled times that he is prepared to look ahead with a degree of optimism.

He surveys a minerals scene that covers gold and uranium, iron and zinc, manganese and iron, platinum and antimony plus the group's industrial activities which provided 50 per cent of net profits in the year to last June.

-MINERALS SEARCH

In such a diversification of interests, Mr. Hersov naturally finds it difficult to assess the impact of South Africa's recent 17.9 per cent devaluation of the rand and implies that overall it is not likely to have a favourable effect on Anglo-Vaal's profitability.

The search for metals proceeds apace with exploration in progress in all four provinces of the republic with several potentially interesting prospects being examined in the Transvaal and the Cape Province.

In the second half of the past financial year, Middle Wit became an Anglo-Vaal subsidiary. Its full impact on consolidated results will become clear in 1976. Last year, Anglo-Vaal boosted its earnings to a record 296 cents a share and raised its dividend by 20 cents to 38 cents (33p). At least this seems to be in no danger of being reduced despite the general down-trend in the fortunes of the world's mining houses. So Anglo-Vaal at £121 could be one of the more attractive investments in this particular sphere.

ZC1 still cannot pay

THE PROBLEMS of Zambia, whose main earnings from copper have been wiped out by the fall in the metal price coupled with the strangulation of the country's export route via Angola, are mirrored in the September quarterly report of Zambia Copper Investments which holds 49 per cent of Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines and 12.5 per cent of Roan Consolidated Mines. The Zambian Government has a 50 per cent stake in Nchanga and

Although the copper-producing Nchanga and RCM have dropped out of the dividend-paying list previous distributions paid by Nchanga to the Bermudan-registered ZCI amounting to \$US10.3m. are still held in Zambia owing to the country's lack of foreign exchange. ZCI cannot distribute these funds to shareholders outside Zambia.

Latest Zambian exchange controls regulations provide that dividends remitted by Zambian companies may not exceed 50 per cent of the net profit attributable to the external shareholders or 10 per cent (previously 30 per cent) of the capital of the company attributable to these shareholders, whichever is the lesser.

ZCI states that the new restrictions will not apply to the Nchanga dividend which is now blocked in Zambia but they will affect dividends attributable to external shareholders of RCM claimed by that company for the year to June 30 last. However, ZCI's share of the latter, amounting to \$1.51m., comes within the new limits and should be remitted when foreign exchange becomes available.

Shareholders in ZCI (and RCM) must thus continue to exercise patience while awaiting the eventual recovery in the price of

## BIDS AND DEALS (Contd.)

## Meyer buys rest of Keizer Venesta

Keizer Venesta has become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Burmah's disposal of the BP stock. Montague L. Meyer following the latter's purchase of Venesta International's remaining 50 per cent holding.

Meyer has paid £1.6m. for this latest tranche bringing the total purchase price of KV to £4m., including the £2.1m. paid for the first 50 per cent in May this year. As part of the latest deal Meyer has also given an interest-free loan of £450,000 to Venesta for not exceeding eight months. Repayment of this is covered by a banker's guarantee.

Three directors of KV have resigned: Messrs. D. J. Rowland, C. G. H. Cooke and J. P. Vizard.

Keizer Venesta, which made profits before tax of £69,180 for the year to March 31, 1975, had net tangible assets in the last audited accounts of just under £75,500.

Net tangible assets at end 1974 were £215,930. Trading profit after (adjustments for extraordinary items) for 1974 was £77,508.

## EDINBURGH INDUSTRIAL

Edinburgh Industrial Holdings, in continuing its disposal policy, has sold its wholly owned subsidiary Foxon and Robinson. Consideration is £25,000 cash payable over 10 years during which it is secured on the assets. In the year ended November 2, 1974 Foxon made a loss of £73,000. Edinburgh Industrial will retain the freehold premises which Foxon will continue to occupy and has signed a 20-year lease to that effect.

## SUPPORT FOR BURMAH ACTION GROUP

A spokesman for the Burmah Oil shareholders' action group, said that of 17,000 of the largest holders so far approached "well over 5,000" had written expressing support in the fight against the Government. Many had sent donations to the fighting fund.

The action group—which is fighting to secure a better deal from the Government following the enforced sale of Burmah's stake in BP—is still pressing the Stock Exchange for the disclosure

## ASSOCIATES DEALS

Cazenove on October 28 purchased 30,000 Permalit at 30p on behalf of BTR and on October 27 purchased 3,000 at 30p also on behalf of BTR.

Laing and Cruickshank on October 28 bought on behalf of Compagnie Financiere Esterlit 100,000 Atlas Stone at 115p.

## Starrite liquidity

IN HIS annual statement, the chairman of Starrite Engineering Group, Mr. W. R. Bruce tells members that there was a reduction in the rate of both home and export incoming orders in the latter part of the year to June 30, owing to the depressed market conditions, and this tendency—at least as far as the home market is concerned—is expected to continue in the current year.

However, liquidity at the year end was good and will continue to improve until end of December, 1975, states the chairman, and the group is in a strong position to deal with the depressed situation.

"In this respect we would anticipate some fall in profits for the year 1975-76," he says.

As reported on October 2, turnover expanded from £2.85m. to £3.2m. in 1974-75 and pre-tax profits advanced from £257,087 to £374,854. The dividend total is £2.875m. (£0.692p) net.

An analysis of turnover and profit by activity shows: Manufacture and marketing of machine tools £1.75m. (£1.71m.) and £0.32m. (£0.17m.), factoring of machines and equipment 50.5m. (£0.85m.) and £0.836 (£1.39m.) and manufacture of special purpose equipment and contract work £0.52m. (£0.38m.) and £0.642 (£0.616). Finance charges absorbed £120,961 (£15,477).

copper and the solution of Zambezi's transport difficulties. But the timing of this potential "rags to riches" transformation scene is present being predicted unprofitably to some way off yet. ZCI

is in the same position as Western Mining. He estimated that about

half of world output was at

present being produced unprofitably.

Moreover, new projects were

being stalled. Eventually, cost

price relationships would have to

improve or some world nickel pro-

duction would come to a halt.

Mr. Parbo said that Western

Mining's big Yeelrie uranium

project was ready to proceed as

soon as Government approval was

given. It would involve a plant

costing more than \$180



## INTERNATIONAL COMPANY NEWS + EURO MARKETS

## VW pays the price for hiring turnaround

By NICHOLAS COLCHESTER

VOLKSWAGEN of West Germany is to increase its work force by some 4,000 workers at the beginning of next year, prompted by a surprising resurgence in the demand for its cars. The management's decision comes only seven months after the new VW chairman, Toni Schmucker, hit the headlines with his decision to shed 25,000 workers in the years 1975 and 1976.

Since August, when Volkswagen had to introduce special shifts to keep up with demand for its new and very successful model the Golf (or Rabbit in the U.S.), it has become steadily clearer that the company's management over-reacted at the beginning of this year to a sales slump that had brought VW a loss of DM807m. in 1974.

Management has had to pay a price to get the Volkswagen works council to agree to the mass firing. It has promised that there will be no forced redundancies in 1976 and that short-time work will not be introduced until at least three months after the last special production shift has taken place.

Last April's measures were regarded as a prime example of the way in which the management of a German semi-

nationalised enterprise must be allowed to take a politically unpleasant decision. The latest news has certainly put the advocates of unbribled management on to the defensive. It has justified the stance of the chairman of the Metal Workers' Union Eugen Loderer, who professed continued faith in the German motor-car market and urged in April that Volkswagen's redundancies be kept to a minimum.

Three factors seemed to have contributed to Volkswagen's about-turn. In the first place the forecast number of unit sales by German manufacturers was 1.85m.: to-day's estimate is 2.1m. Such a total would make 1975 comparable to the pre-oil embargo year of 1973. Volkswagen sales will benefit particularly from this sales upturn because its new Golf model has been the motor-car of the year. The German car market has been successful in Wolfsburg even in fact, that the replacement of the Beetle has at last been found. Volkswagen's capital, Wolfsburg, will be withdrawn at the end of May because it was already over-subscribed. Where Volkswagen's German works employed 111,000 people at the U.S. sales operation.

## Berliet short-time plans

PARIS, Oct. 29.

AUTOMOBILES BERLIET is faced by the company, which is a member of the Regie Nationale des Usines Renault group, for about 20,000 workers in its plants on October 30 and 1. It had a first-half 1975 loss of Frs.51.1m. against a profit of November 10 and 12, December 26 and January 1, a company spokesman said. This reflects the difficulties of the way in which the management of a German semi-

## Brostrom profits slump

By John Walker

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 29.

THE BROSTROM shipping concern states in its eight-month interim report that the calculated operating profit, after deductions, amounted to Kr.16m. (£1.1m.) compared with Kr.16.6m. in the same period last year. The operating income amounts to Kr.1bn. (£120m.) for the first eight months of this year compared with Kr.12bn. in the corresponding period in 1974.

One of the main causes for the deterioration is the very poor tanker market. Brostrom reports that one tanker and two OBO ships are laid up, which account for 0.6m. tons.

Liner traffic during the period under review showed a continued deterioration in profits, compared with 1974 which was characterised by a high level of activity. The two cruise ships, Kungsholm and Gripsholm, showed a considerable loss this year. An agreement has been reached for the sale of the Kungsholm and five other ships, while the Gripsholm has been laid up since September.

The earlier forecast that the company would have a positive operating profit after depreciation for this year will have to be revised to some extent. The sale of ships during the year has resulted in better prices than earlier anticipated. The concern forecasts that there will be a surplus before appropriations and taxes for this year's operations.

## Poclain first half loss

By Roger Cornwell

PARIS, Oct. 28.

POCLAIR, the troubled French manufacturer of earth-moving equipment to-day reported a first half loss of Frs.60.3m. (£6.5m.) in the first half of 1975, against a profit of Frs.25.5m. for the same period of last year.

Setting aside hysterical rumours of imminent takeover — half-witted oil sheiks are the most colourful contestants according to the rumour-mongers — one explanation is that people who bought at the top of the market in early 1974 and seeking to lower their average buying price of the shares in hopes of turning a short-term loss into a modest medium-term profit. Others are said to be buying at Frs.25.5m. for the same period of last year.

The figures go a long way to explain the co-operation talks now under way at the behest of the Industry Ministry here, between Poclain and the light engineering group Ferodo. So far, the discussions are at a preliminary stage, and just a week ago a Ferodo spokesman emphasised that it was still far from certain at that stage whether anything concrete would emerge.

Nonetheless, the size of the loss announced by Poclain can only make its need for external finance all the more pressing

the liability for future losses arising from the contracts which AEG brought into KWU.

This indicates that AEG is going to have to continue to bear its share of the burden of raising KWU's share capital by an estimated DM800m. Its current DM335m. share capital and reserves is somewhat slender in view of its need to finance an order book predicted to rise from the DM15m. mark to DM75m. by the end of the decade.

The attempt to raise cash by the sale of its 35.75 per cent. stake in Ceram, the Federal Republic's leading light bulb manufacturer, to General Electric of New York was scuttled by the third partner in Ceram, Siemens again. Admittedly the price mentioned for the sale — alleged DM100m. — seemed pretty low, but AEG is now in the process of negotiating a real boost to its Osram stake under

Hopes that AEG would be able to divest itself of its KWU participation to its partner — and arch-rival — Siemens came to nought. They founded, it is taken place. AEG now has an understanding on the issue of energetic new chairman of its supervisory Board, Herr Juer-

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In the course of this month they have risen to the present price from the low DM70m. At the mid-summer point they were in the DM60s after a spring crescendo had swept them up to the DM90s. At the end of last year they were trading under the DM60s.

All this would be fair and dandy if this year's news about AEG—West Germany's second largest electrical concern—had been relatively good. But it has not. In fact this year, not to overstate the case, has been a disappointment.

The group in its annual report announced losses for last year which totalled DM824m. These stemmed largely from its 50 per cent. involvement in Kraftwerk Union, West Germany's largest power station builder.

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gen Ponto, the dynamic chief executive of the Dresdner Bank. Senior management figures such as AEG chief executive Dr. Hans Grebe, whose popularity have waned with the profits, are going. However, all this was apparent when the share price was heading towards its nadir late last year.

In the course of this month they have risen to the present price from the low DM70m. At the mid-summer point they were in the DM60s after a spring crescendo had swept them up to the DM90s. At the end of last year they were trading under the DM60s.

All this would be fair and dandy if this year's news about AEG—West Germany's second largest electrical concern—had been relatively good. But it has not. In fact this year, not to overstate the case, has been a disappointment.

The group in its annual report announced losses for last year which totalled DM824m. These stemmed largely from its 50 per cent. involvement in Kraftwerk Union, West Germany's largest power station builder.

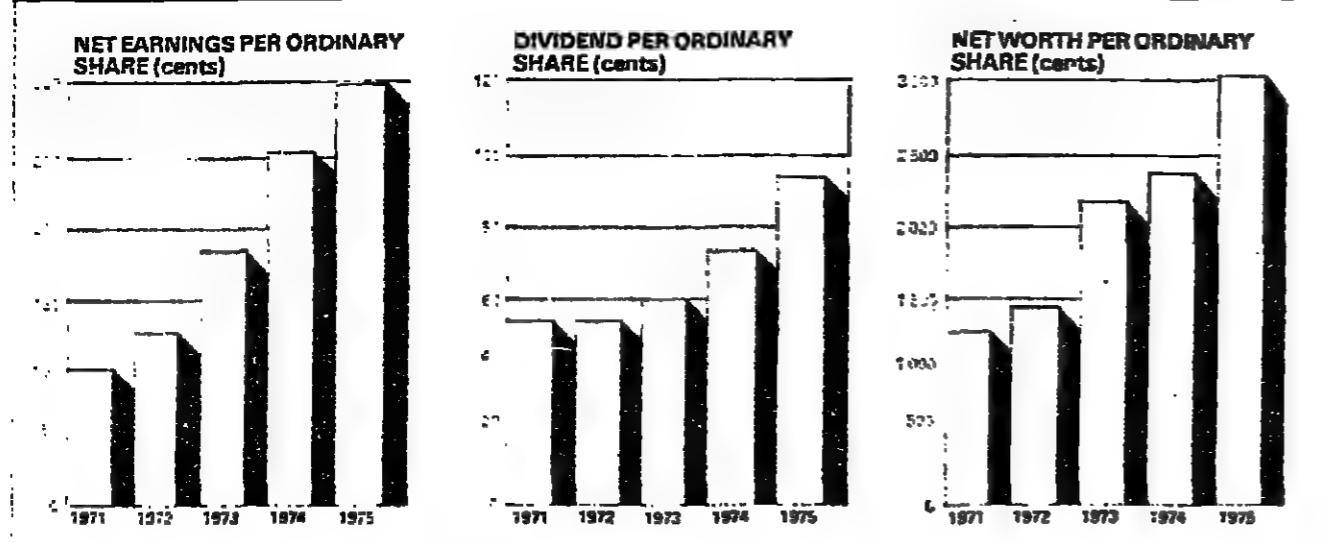




# ANGLOVAAL

*Chairman's review*

## Record Group profits; improved earnings and dividends expected - Mr Basil E. Hersov



	Company		Consolidated	
	1975	1974	1975	1974
Profit after taxation	R7044 000	R5377 000	R26659 000	R25071 000
Dividends paid	R4417 000	R3455 000	R4359 000	R3455 000
Earnings per ordinary share*	156 cents	124 cents	296 cents	253 cents
Dividends per ordinary share	95 cents	75 cents	95 cents	75 cents
Investments				
Listed:				
Book value	R29344 000	R28523 000	R32119 000	R23026 000
Market value	R86775 000	R78674 000	R108975 000	R63476 000
Unlisted:				
Book value	R11320 000	R10770 000	R18536 000	R10797 000

\* 1971-1974 per share of R10 750 oos, including a capitalisation of R10 000 oos and a dividend of R10 000 oos.

### Financial results

The consolidated taxed profit for the year ended 30 June 1975 attributable to members was R12 855 000, an increase of 20 per cent on last year's R10 750 000. Net earnings per ordinary share increased by 17 per cent to 156 cents per share. The increased earnings this year were mainly attributable to higher dividend income from the Group's mining investments and to the inclusion of six months' results of Middle Witwatersrand (Western Areas) Limited ("Midwits"), which became a subsidiary on 1 January 1975. As at 30 June, the net asset value per ordinary share was 3 001 cents per share (1974 - 2 375 cents per share).

The Company's own earnings were 156 cents per share, an increase of 26 per cent on last year's 124 cents per share and the ordinary dividend was increased by 27 per cent from 75 cents to 95 cents per share.

### Investments

During the year under review there was an increase in the market value of the listed shares in the Company's portfolio which at the year-end was worth R86 775 000, compared to R78 674 000 at the end of the previous financial year. The book value of the listed

shares was R29 344 000 and the book value of unlisted investments was R11 320 000. However, since the end of the financial year there has been a substantial and general fall in share prices on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and as at the date of this review, the market value of the listed shares is R67 148 000. On the basis of listed shares at market value and unlisted shares at book value, the combined portfolio of this Company and all its financial subsidiaries, including Midwits, at the year-end had a value of R127 511 000 (at 30 September 1975 - R10 030 000). As a result of Midwits becoming a subsidiary, the combined interests of the Company and Midwits made Prieska Copper Mines (Proprietary) Limited and Atok Platinum Mines (Proprietary) Limited subsidiaries as from 1 January 1975.

### Mining interests

On 18 September 1975, agreements were signed between The Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa Limited ("Asmang") and the United States Steel Corporation ("U.S. Steel") whereby Asmang will export 3 000 000 tons a year of iron ore to U.S. Steel for a period of fifteen years. U.S. Steel will lend Asmang up to US \$6 000 000 to help finance the expansion of that company's iron

mines. The Company's own earnings were 156 cents per share, an increase of 26 per cent on last year's 124 cents per share and the ordinary dividend was increased by 27 per cent from 75 cents to 95 cents per share.

**Financial**

The Company earned a profit after taxation of R7 044 000 compared with R5 377 000 in 1974 and its net earnings per ordinary share rose to 156 cents (1974 - 124 cents), of which 95 cents (1974 - 75 cents) were declared as dividends. Consolidated profit after taxation attributable to members increased by R2 126 000 to R12 855 000. The consolidated after-tax profit of the industrial subsidiaries was lower than for the previous year due mainly to the shipbuilding leases incurred by James Brown & Hamer Limited, the lower profits of T. W. Becker & Company Limited and to the higher incidence of taxation resulting from lower tax allowances received this year.

The profit after taxation attributable to members of the Company was earned from the following classes of business:

	Consolidated	Company	1975	1974
	1975	1974	1975	1974
Gold and uranium	0	0	0	0
Other minerals and metals	29	24	45	44
Food and packaging	15	11	24	21
Building and allied industries	18	20	11	14
Engineering	3	7	4	6
Other industrial interests	10	15	6	9
Financial	20	20	5	5
	5	3	5	1

### Mining investments

Middle Witwatersrand (Western Areas) Limited ("Midwits"), the mining investment and exploration company, became a subsidiary of Anglo-Transvaal Consolidated Investment Company, Limited on 1 January 1975 and has changed its financial year end to 30 June. The consolidated profit, after tax, of Midwits for the eighteen months ended 30 June 1975 was R8 209 000, compared with R3 495 000 for the twelve months ended 31 December 1973. Included in these figures were net profits on realisation of investments of R1 006 000 (1973 - R854 000). Ordinary dividends aggregating 42 cents (1973 - 12 cents) per share were paid for the eighteen months' period and dividends were paid on the 8 per cent "A" and "B" preference shares. Exploratory expenditure amounted to R407 000 (1973 - R212 000). The market values of the listed investments of Midwits and its subsidiaries Rooderand Main Reef Mines Limited, Transmid Investments (Proprietary) Limited and Harmony Lands and Minerals Limited at 30 June 1975 were R67 956 000 (book value R16 106 000), compared with R8 057 000 (book value R14 471 000) at 31 December 1973.

Despite a lower tonnage throughput, a reduction in grade and a considerable increase in costs, the higher gold prices received by

Because of the substantially higher gold revenue, profit at Lorraine Gold Mines Limited for the financial year ended 30 September 1974 rose to R12 967 000 (1973 - R1 403 000). During the year, there was a considerable reduction in the supply of black labour and efforts were made to attract a larger percentage of South African blacks by means of improved job opportunities and higher wages.

In September 1975, due to an unprecedented rise in working costs, the reduced rate of growth in the gold price and shortages of black employees, a reduced dividend of 6 cents (1974 - 12 cents) was declared. The prospects of working the "B" and Basal reefs on a large scale have also diminished and as more selective mining may be necessary this could lead to a reduction in the planned rate of increase of tonnage milled. It was therefore decided that a more conservative programme for the expansion scheme would be adopted. Although the completion of No. 4 and 5 shafts as previously planned is still envisaged, the new milling plant at No. 3 shaft will be deferred until a clearer picture on the gold price and cost trends emerges and more development values on "B" and Basal reefs are to hand. The ultimate monthly milling target of 200 000 tons may have to be modified, but it is still expected that a milling rate of 150 000 tons per month will be reached by the end of 1976.

Operations at Eastern Transvaal Consolidated Mines Limited for the year ended 30 June 1975 resulted in a working profit before taxation of R3 362 000 (1974 - R3 644 000). Although a higher gold price was received by the mine, the additional revenue - when compared with the previous year - was more than offset by the rise in working costs arising from the substantial wage increases granted to all employees as well as the higher cost of stores and services. An increased dividend of 25 cents (1974 - 20 cents) per share was paid.

Because of reductions in tonnage milled and recovery grade, and substantial cost increases, Village Main Reef Gold Mining Company (1934) Limited sustained a working loss of R263 000

for the year. U.S. Steel has also subscribed for ordinary shares in Assmang equivalent to 10 per cent of its increased issued capital at a cost of R25 per share, aggregating R8 570 000. Assmang was formed in 1935, has been exporting manganese ore since that time and iron ore since 1960. Currently it is exporting about 800 000 tons of iron ore and 2 000 000 tons of manganese ore annually through Port Elizabeth and the completion of the Sishen-Saldanha line will make possible further development of Assmang's iron and manganese ore deposits in the north-western Cape. The recent financial results of Assmang and its subsidiary, Feralloys Limited, which produces and exports ferro-alloys, are currently at record levels.

The considerable fall during the year in the London Metal Exchange copper price from about £950 per ton to about £600 per ton resulted in a reduction of Prieska Copper Mines' working profit from R11 840 000 to R1 258 000 and, after taking into account interest payments, there was a deficit of R1 711 000 for the year. Current copper prices in real terms are at levels that have not prevailed for many years and it is too early to say whether or not there is yet a rising trend. The prices received by Prieska are currently fairly stable throughout the year.

The increase in Anok's production to a rate equivalent to 40 000 ozs of platinum group metals annually was adversely affected by delays in the supply and commissioning of plant and equipment and the planned milling rate was only achieved in May 1975. The market survey, to which I referred last year, was updated during the year and studies into the further development of the mine continue. Platinum and palladium prices remained during the year as Western economies felt the full blast of a major world recession. Palladium in particular suffered and it now appears that the previous high prices for this metal might have driven consumers in certain key areas to new technologies. Recently there has been an increase in the producer price for platinum from \$155 to \$170 an ounce.

### Gold price

The rise of the gold price witnessed in recent years has been followed by a drastic fall which has been tempered to some extent by the recent devaluation of the Rand. This, coupled with considerable rises in mining costs flowing from inflation, is leading to a serious situation for mines with lower grade ores. The Lorraine gold mine recently announced a modification of the expansion programme mentioned in my review last year, and the future of Village Main Reef gold mine under present conditions is very uncertain. Efforts are constantly being made on our mines to counteract the unfavourable factors mentioned above and it is gratifying to report considerable progress recently in improved training and utilisation of our mine personnel, leading to increased productivity and cost reductions.

The mineral exploration activities of the Group are at a higher level than for many years. Base mineral exploration is in progress in all four provinces of the Republic, with special emphasis on the Transvaal and Cape Province, where several potentially interesting prospects are being examined. Investigations of gold prospects are in progress in the Eastern Transvaal and the Orange Free State, while coal occurrence is also receiving considerable attention.

Members are aware that the Anglovaal Laboratory has made many valuable contributions to the mining industry, particularly in the area of mineral beneficiation and recoveries. Arising from Anglovaal's involvement in platinum mining through Anok, research covering all aspects of the refining processes after the smelter stage was undertaken. This has already resulted in the development of a completely new patented process for refining the platinum group metals which brings about a significant reduction in the process time for the production of refined metals. At the same time, work in the leaching and refining of copper and nickel from a smelter matte is continuing and some final patent applications in this area have already been lodged.

*Basil E. Hersov*

for the year ended 30 June 1975 (1974 - profit R473 000). The final taxed profit was R353 000 after taking into account financial assistance from the State, non-mining income and compensation received for the expropriation of freehold land. No dividend was declared.

Operations at Rand Leases (Vogelstruisfontein) Gold Mining Company Limited continue to be confined to building maintenance, caretaking, grassing of dumps and pollution prevention. Income for the year exceeded expenditure by R45 000 but this included R33 000 from the sale of freehold property. The effects of inflation, particularly on the cost of plant and equipment, have worsened the chances of re-opening the mine and unless conditions change materially, no consideration can be given to this possibility.

As anticipated last year, lower copper prices and higher working costs had a marked effect on the results achieved by Prieska Copper Mines (Proprietary) Limited. The working profit for the year to 30 June 1975 dropped to R1 258 000, compared with R11 840 000 in the previous financial year. After transferring R1 000 000 from the profit fluctuation reserve created last year and taking into account interest payments of R3 091 000, the company incurred a loss of R1 711 000 (1974 - profit R8 683 000), which has been set off against the general reserve. The balance of R2 179 00 standing to the credit of this account has been transferred to non-distributable reserves representing as it does investment in fixed assets. Revenue from copper concentrates and sales of blister copper and electrolytic copper wirebars at an average price of £554 per ton (1974 - £552) contributed 52 per cent of total revenue, while zinc concentrates and zinc metal sales at an average price of £355 per ton (1974 - £293) accounted for 45 per cent of total revenue. The production and sales of pyrite, which commenced during the year under review, and the sale of lead concentrates, provided useful contributions to revenue.

Atok Platinum Mines (Proprietary) Limited experienced delays in reaching its new planned rate of production equivalent to 40 000 ozs of platinum group metals annually. The vertical shaft has now been commissioned and the mine's production capability will be further enhanced and costs reduced when the changeover from diesel generated power to Eskom power is effected in a few months' time. As a result of the greatly increased rate of inflation which took place in South Africa during the construction of the expanded facility, the capital cost of plant extensions escalated from approximately R2 200 000 to R3 200 000. With lower prices prevailing throughout much of the year for the eight metals produced by Atok, revenue receipts did not reach planned levels and with increased costs, Atok has experienced liquidity problems. These have now been met by restructuring the capital and obtaining additional overdraft facilities. The loan by Africa Triangle Mining, Prospecting & Development Company (Proprietary) Limited of R2 654 309 will be converted into equity capital. In addition, shareholders will

### Industrial interests

Trading conditions in industry generally during the past year were difficult, with raw material costs in some cases more than doubled and decisions regarding stock levels largely influenced by market uncertainty. At the same time, industry was faced with the need to modernise and extend plant to cope with increased volumes and the need to provide the greatly increased working capital for the expanded operations. These changes, coupled with inflationary increases in wages and most other costs, made budgets and estimates unrealistic. Generally speaking, however, the industrial companies in the Group adapted to these changes in the environment in a responsible and satisfactory manner and were in many instances able to continue to increase profits.

Despite these problems and the major setback suffered by James Brown & Hamer Limited and T. W. Becker & Company Limited, which are dealt with in the Directors' report, consolidated pre-tax profit of Anglo-Transvaal Industries Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 30 June 1975 was maintained at approximately the same level as the previous year. The higher incidence of taxation was offset by the reduced dividend of the outside shareholders, and total profit attributable to the ordinary shareholders of Anglo-Transvaal Industries totalled Rg 632 000 compared with Rg 585 000 in the previous year. Although the company is budgeting for increased profits, the extent of the improvement will depend on trading conditions during the current year.

The Government is considering measures to curb inflation and, although the Group fully shares the Government's concern with inflation, it is hoped that the authorities will recognise business realities in the application of any measures taken and not sacrifice long-term viability for short-term expediency which would only be of temporary benefit to consumers. It is imperative, if employment opportunities are to be created and shareholders are to receive a fair return on their investment, that companies be permitted profit margins adequate to provide the funds for the modernisation and expansion of their plants and also for their increased working capital requirements.

### Conclusion

The results for the year under review were those of our plan. However, inflationary trends during the current year continue to concern all our companies and this, coupled with higher prices that are either failing to keep in step with rising costs or are actually falling behind, presents the greatest challenge that management has had to face for some years. The impact and effect of the recent devaluation and its implications on our Group companies has yet to be fully assessed, but initial reactions are that although this will be immediate benefits to Group companies exporting materials and products, it will increase inflation, diminish the hoped-for improvement in trading conditions and thus affect overall profitability. The diversified structure of the Anglovaal Group continues to constitute a basic strength in that its income is derived from both the international demand for gold, manganese, copper and zinc, manganese and iron, platinum and antimony, as well as the demand within South Africa for the wide range of products and services produced by its Group companies. Depending on the prices received for our products, the availability of raw materials and our ability to keep ahead of the unusually rapid changes in economic conditions, we are budgeting for increased earnings and dividends during the financial year.

*Basil E. Hersov*

provide a further R330 000 by way of additional equity in order to fund the exercise of an option of 90 000 per cent of the mineral rights of the farm Diamant No. 420 K.S. district Lydenburg. This farm adjoins the farm Middelpunt No. 420 K.S. over which a mining lease is held by Atok and on which mining operations are conducted. During the past year, a market survey previously conducted on a world-wide basis was updated. Studies into the further development of the company's mineral assets continue.

The consolidated profit before taxation for the year ended 31 December 1974 of The Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa Limited and its main subsidiary Feralloys Limited was R10 621 000 (197

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Basile*

*Extracts from the Directors' report  
(continued)*



et & Company Limited and the shipbuilding losses of £100,000 at James Brown & Hamer Limited. Taxation of £78,000 (1974 - £84,400) was at a higher effective rate than the previous year, but the effect on shareholders' earnings was by the reduction in the outside shareholders' interests from £5,000 in 1974 to £7,780,000 in the 1975 financial year. Taxes attributable to ordinary shareholders were £9,620,000 - £9,885,000 and earnings were reduced from 78 cents per share to 70 cents per share. The company's taxed profit increased £2,781,000 to £3,360,000, equivalent to 23 cents per share, mainly to increased dividends from subsidiary companies. Ordinary dividend payments increased from 14 cents to 16 cents.

A consolidated pre-tax profit of South Atlantic Corporation Ltd and its subsidiary companies for the year ended 30 June was R14,524,000 (1974 - R15,310,000). After providing for tax and the interests of outside shareholders, the consolidated profit was R5,773,000 (1974 - R7,475,000). The reasons for downturn in profit were the setbacks suffered by two of the units in the group, namely James Brown & Hamer Limited and W. Beckett & Company Limited. The company nevertheless set its ordinary dividend from 12 cents to 14 cents per share.

A satisfactory year of operations under difficult conditions is seen in a 17 per cent increase in the consolidated after-tax of Irvin & Johnson Limited to R5,820,000. The ordinary dividend was increased to 7 cents (1974 - 5.5 cents) per share from 6 cents (1974 - 5.5 cents) per share. Both the tonnage caught by the trawling fleet and trading conditions in the year gave cause for optimism during the first half of the year, but months catches dropped significantly and it also became increasingly difficult to maintain profit margins on the company's trawlers because of the combined effects of competition and cost resistance. Sales of vegetables throughout the year were strong, some supplies being limited by bad weather, but partly offset by good sales of the main franchise products, chicken.

Consolidated taxed profit of T. W. Beckett & Company Ltd for the year ended 30 June 1975 of R9,15,000 was slightly lower than the taxed earnings of R1,806,000 for the year. This reduction in profit arose from the difficult conditions encountered during the year. Market conditions clearly shown signs of improvement and provided this trend continued, it is anticipated that the company will improve in the current year. The company paid a dividend of 11.5 cents (1974 - 10.5 cents) per share.

Estimation of the depressed prices for fish meal in world, which became evident in 1974, was responsible for a drop in turnover in all parts of the country at various times of the year, and abnormal increases in the price of herring following the 1973 oil crisis. Provided operations are not affected by inclement weather, it is anticipated that profits will increase.

There was a dramatic downturn in the commodity markets served by E. I. Rogoff Limited and its subsidiaries, which operate as import and sales agents, but the effects of this were largely offset by the full order book brought forward from the previous year.

Consolidated taxed profit fell from R5,666,000 in 1974 to R5,15,000

in the year ended 30 June 1975, due mainly to the sale of 50 per cent of the company's interest in E. I. Rogoff Chemicals (Proprietary) Limited. Dividend income from this investment amounted to R1,100,000, compared to the R2,620,000 contribution by this former subsidiary to the consolidated taxed profit in the previous year. In addition, two new trading divisions, which were established during the year, had not reached profitability by the year end. The dividend was increased by 8 cents to 25 cents per share.

Results of Globe Engineering Works Limited and its subsidiaries, James Brown & Hamer Limited and Shipwrights Engineers Holdings Limited, are largely dependent on their in the marine engineering field. After-tax consolidated of the Globe group of companies for the year ended 30 June 1975 at R2,302,000 were R2,455,000 lower than the previous year, there was a sharp reduction in ship repair work on the Cape Town docks as a result of the cutback in tankering the Cape sea routes, which led to a reduction in business. The Globe group's after-tax profits from R3,046,000 to R2,455,000.

Secondly, the results of the Durban-based subsidiary James Brown & Hamer Limited were affected by losses on ship-contract aggregating R3,500,000, partially offset by a R500,000 being the reversal of claims raised in previous year. The positive side, James Brown & Hamer Limited's ship-repair has had a highly successful year while the Vereeniged subsidiary, Broderick Investments Limited, recorded improvement in consolidated profit after tax. Shipwrights Engineers Holdings Limited, due largely to improvements in building operations, recorded a marginally increased profit despite adversely affected in shipwrighting operations by a reduction in available work. It is not expected that any dramatic improvement in the availability of ship-repair in South African ports during the coming year, but the up is nevertheless budgeting for increased profits, particularly the losses arising from the fixed-price contracts referred have all been provided for in the financial statements to 1975. Globe declared an unchanged dividend of 25 cents.

id for glass consumers - the main product of Chaisell Glass Works Limited - remained strong throughout the turnover rose by 37 per cent to R66,000,000. Sales volume accounted for 11 per cent and higher selling prices for 26. Due to exceptional and mainly imported cost escalations recovered in increased selling prices, and to a higher of taxation, consolidated taxed profits improved by only R2,640,000, equivalent to earnings of 43 cents (1974 - 40 per share). With the group's heavy commitments in respect expenditure and working capital requirements, the dividend remained at 19 cents per share. Although the economy as buoyant as it was at this time last year, the company is seeking for a modest increase in sales and profits, the latter from productivity improvements envisaged for the forthcoming year.

Escalations in steel prices and wages during the year led substantial price increases for the fasteners produced by National Bolts Limited. The increased selling prices, together with a rise in sales volumes, increased turnover by 26 per cent to R1,000,000. The commissioning of new plant and equipment

ment during the year enabled production rates to be improved materially and, with full plant utilisation for most of the year, profit levels increased. With a lower incidence of taxation, the consolidated earnings for ordinary shareholders improved to R1,771,000, equivalent to 35 cents (1974 - 23 cents) per share. Increased working capital requirements flowing from the high rate of inflation necessitated additional profit retentions and an ordinary dividend of 14 cents (1974 - 12 cents) per share was declared.

In a year of high activity, and considerable inflation, the turnover of Steelmens Limited, which is an engineering supplier and contractor, rose by 27 per cent to R2,500,000. All divisions participated in this increase and, with rigid control of costs and a slightly reduced incidence of taxation, consolidated taxed profits increased by 46 per cent to R1,852,000, equivalent to earnings of 87 cents per share. Increased working capital requirements necessitated a continued high rate of profit retention and the dividend was raised by 43 per cent to 25 cents per share.

Claude Neon Light (S.A.) Limited continued to enjoy an increased demand for its products, despite tight money conditions and high interest rates, and consolidated taxed profit increased to R462,000 (1974 - R428,000). The ordinary dividend was increased to 45 cents (1974 - 40 cents) per share.

Denver Metal Works (Proprietary) Limited - which produces non-ferrous castings, extrusions and stampings - experienced mixed market conditions during the year. Demand for bronze products, supplied primarily to the mining industry, remained at a high level, but brass and copper sales declined significantly in line with the marked downturn in the building industry and generally depressed conditions in export markets. The reduced throughput, together with continued cost escalations, resulted in a drop in consolidated taxed profits from R646,000 in 1974 to R358,000 in 1975.

The consolidated taxed profit of Petrogal Limited and its subsidiaries for the year was R227,000 (1974 - R468,000). The market for road binders was affected by the exceptionally wet weather in all parts of the country at various times of the year, and abnormal increases in the price of bitumen following the 1973 oil crisis. Provided operations are not affected by inclement weather, it is anticipated that profits will increase.

There was a dramatic downturn in the commodity markets served by E. I. Rogoff Limited and its subsidiaries, which operate as import and sales agents, but the effects of this were largely offset by the full order book brought forward from the previous year. Consolidated taxed profit fell from R5,666,000 in 1974 to R5,15,000 in the year ended 30 June 1975, due mainly to the sale of 50 per cent of the company's interest in E. I. Rogoff Chemicals (Proprietary) Limited. Dividend income from this investment amounted to R1,100,000, compared to the R2,620,000 contribution by this former subsidiary to the consolidated taxed profit in the previous year. In addition, two new trading divisions, which were established during the year, had not reached profitability by the year end. The dividend was increased by 8 cents to 25 cents per share.

The large quantity of imported worsted cloth brought into the local market at low prices during 1974 caused a drop in demand and profitability at South African Fine Worsted (Proprietary) Limited for the first half of the financial year. However, this trend was successfully countered by the company's entry into the broader worsted market of leisurewear and trouserings which, together with higher mill efficiencies, resulted in a satisfactory recovery to give an after-tax profit for the year of R697,000 (1974 - R984,000). The 1974 profit of R984,000 was free of tax as the company had an assessed loss. Forward orders for the coming year indicate a modest improvement in profits may be expected.

The volume of crude oil processed at the refinery of Setonar Limited in the past year was again restricted by the international oil companies to the agreed minimum quantity of 116,000 kilolitres, due to the reduced rate of demand for petroleum products in the country and a consequent surplus of capacity at their coastal refineries. Profit on refining declined, but improvements in other income and lower taxation resulted in a better taxed profit of R3,33,000 (1974 - R25,000). Throughput in the current year will continue at the minimum contractual level until 30 June 1976, when the agreement with the major oil companies will terminate. No alternative projects have yet been found to enable refining operations to be continued after that date and in the absence of any profitable use for the company's facilities in their present form, its assets will be sold to the best advantage of shareholders.

#### Cement and lime

The Anglo-Alfa Cement Limited group recorded an after-tax profit for the year ended 30 June 1975 of R5,347,000, compared with R5,677,000 in the previous year. Turnover rose by R35,000,000 to R1,500,000 due to the full consolidation of the group's ready-mixed concrete interests for the first time. The decline in business activity, coupled with a season of exceptionally heavy rainfall, reduced the level of demand from the construction industry and sales volumes fell slightly below those achieved last year. Besides the depressed sales position, the decline in profitability is attributable to higher interest charges on increased borrowings, severe production cost increases and the additional amount set aside for the replacement of fixed assets resulting from the alarming increase in the replacement cost of plant.

The country's future cement supply is being jeopardised by the artificial constraints of price control. This results in an inadequate return which inhibits the producers from expanding capacity in line with the anticipated growth in the market. Rapid cost escalations and low returns forced a curtailment of the expansion of Duffield sid, due to the strain which would otherwise be placed on the company's capital resources and liquidity, only that portion already committed will be proceeded with.

30 September 1975.

## ANGLO-TRANSVAAL CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE:  
ANGLOVAAL HOUSE, 56 MAIN STREET, JOHANNESBURG  
LONDON SECRETARIES:  
ANGLO-TRANSVAAL TRUSTEES LIMITED,  
295 REGENT STREET, LONDON W1R 8ST

The Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at 09h30 on 21 November, 1975  
at the registered office of the company.

## Courage plans £36m. distribution and brewery complex

BY KENNETH GOODING, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

COURAGE, the Imperial Group some pressure off London for its subsidiary, hopes to build a £36m. brewing and distribution complex on a site just south of Reading.

The brewery will be of moderate size by today's standards with a capacity of up to 1.5m. bulk barrels a year, but there will be room for expansion as the decision to go ahead at Reading has been taken.

This is the second major brewery project announced this year. The Northern Club's Federation, a company owned by the 650 clubs which receive its beer, is to build a 210m. 2m. barrels-a-year brewery near Newcastle.

Contracts have already been placed for equipment for this new brewery on which work should start next spring with completion about two and a half years later.

#### Problems

When the company first announced a year or so ago the possibility of a new production centre for the south of England, it suggested that both London and Bristol would be closed for loading (but not packaging) operations.

The prospect of industrial relations problems which might spring from such a move probably influenced the decision to keep them going as they are.

It will take several months to get the planning consents for the Reading development and another four to five years to complete the work.

The new brewing complex would employ around 1,000 people, roughly the same number of workers at the Reading brewery and the Alton canning centre.

Courage's present town-centre brewery, with an output of around 400,000 barrels a year, is on a site of about 14 acres. This will probably be acquired by Reading Council as part of a town redevelopment scheme to be announced soon.

Courage says that it has no idea what the site might be worth because so much depends on planning permission. The new brewery will take

#### HOME CONTRACTS

### IDC £2.5m. work for

### British Steel

IDC Stratford-upon-Avon, has been awarded a £1.5m. contract by Redpath Dorman Long (Contracting), part of British Steel. Under this IDC will design and build a production facility for the refurbishing and replacement service of copper moulds and top zones for continuous casting as part of a £1m. expansion scheme at Dillingham Engineering Company, Workington, Cumbria, part of the forges, foundries and engineering works group of BSC's special steels division.

LAURENCE SCOTT AND ELECTROTOMOTORS, Norwich, has received an order worth more than £1.5m. to supply low voltage switchgear for the CEGB's 2,000 megawatt Littlebrook D power station, which is being built to serve the south east and meet increased demand in the London area. The first of Littlebrook's three 660 megawatt oil-fired units will come into service during early 1979.

O'DONOGHUE GROUP, Oster, Yorkshire, has been appointed contractors for two Teesside civil engineering projects totalling more than £1m. For Cleveland County Council, O'Donoghue will construct the advanced earthworks on Stage 1B of the Northern Route, part of the country's primary road network, and for Middlesbrough District Council, a 1.5m. long, 1.2m. wide, the second stage reclamation of the North East Ironmasters District, where land is being improved for future industrial development.

J. T. PARSONS, part of the Rush and Tomkins Group, has been awarded a £1.2m. contract worth £1,278,000 by Escorsus Construction for the redevelopment of an area adjacent to Market Square, Selby, known as the Cross Keys Chequer scheme. This consists of completing demolition, underpinning walls and buildings scheduled for preservation, and construction of a new shopping precinct with vehicle servicing and parking at first floor level and offices on first and second floors. Work has already commenced and is due for completion in 18 months.

HEAD WRIGHTSON PROCESS ENGINEERING, Cleveland, has won a further National Coal Board contract this time for a new 380 tons-per-hour skip plant installation at Thurcroft Colliery in its South Yorkshire area. Worth about £230,000, the order covers the design, supply, erection and commissioning of underground skips, charging pockets, skips of nine tons capacity, and surface discharge and conveying arrangements to link up with a new raw coal stock-out and reclaiming system. The company has now been awarded more than £5m. of NCB work in the past six months.

#### LATEST WILLS

Mr. F. R. Athlone, a former senior partner in Pember and Bayle and a former deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange Council, left £21,910 gross..... £17,930 Net

Sir Alfred Tomkins, former general secretary of the Furniture, Timber and Allied Trades Union, left £34,201 gross £29,233 Net

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## BOND DRAWINGS

### INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK OF ISRAEL LIMITED 7% Guaranteed Loan 1982

S. G. WARBURG & CO. LTD., announce that Bonds for the amount of U.S. \$1,350,000 have been drawn in the presence of a Notary Public for the fourth redemption instalment due 28th November, 1975.

The numbers of the Bonds so drawn are as follows:-

9	14	25	36	47	58	69	80	92	103	114	125
138	147	158	169	180	192	203	214	225	236	247	258
289	298	309	314	325	336	347	358	369	380	392	392
403	414	425	436	447	458	469	480	492	503	514	525
536	547	558	569	580	592	603	614	625	636	647	658
689	698	703	714	725	736	747	758	769	780	792	792
803	814	825	836	847	858	869	880	892	903	914	925
936	947	958	969	980	992	1003	1014	1025	1036	1047	1058
1069	1080	1092	1103	1114	1125	1136	1147	1158			

To-day's annual meeting of the Felixstowe Dock Company gives shareholders their first chance to comment on the surprise £5.2m. bid from the British Transport Docks Board. Arthur Smith reports

# Cross-currents in Britain's ports

**SHAREHOLDERS** in the Felixstowe Docks Company to-day, at the company's annual meeting, have their first chance to comment on the surprise £5.2m. bid from the State-owned British Transport Docks Board unveiled at the beginning of the month and recommended for acceptance by the Felixstowe directors. Among the questions certain to be uppermost in their minds is why the company, a staunch opponent of port's nationalisation, has apparently welcomed the BTDB offer.

For Felixstowe had become something of a symbol of the virtues of private enterprise, with its record as one of the fastest growing ports in Europe. Though the company celebrated its centenary this year, its achievements over the last couple of decades stem largely from the efforts of one man, Mr. H. Gordon Parker, a Felixstowe corn merchant who bought control in 1951 because, he says, he was dissatisfied with the service at other ports.

Then, it was a derelict dockyard, served by little more than a muddy creek. To-day, it is one of the nation's most modern ports, handling more than 3.7m. tonnes of cargo a year. Mr. Parker, at 84, is still chairman and still fervently opposed to Government interference and to ports nationalisation. He nevertheless stands firm with his fellow directors in their unanimous recommendation that shareholders should accept the BTDB offer.

Preparations for the takeover are complicated by the fact that the BTDB has to get a private Bill through Parliament to give it the necessary powers. While the legislation may not get the Royal Assent before next August, at which point the £5.2m. would be paid, shareholders will be called on to commit themselves to the deal at an extraordinary general meeting likely to be held about the middle of next month.

One question is whether a private consortium, understood to have assessed the potential of Felixstowe, will move in with a counter-bid. This, however, looks increasingly unlikely, given the Government's commitment to ports nationalisation that has been the legacy of most of Britain's major ports. And he was prepared to back his judgment with new investment—a £10m. improvement:

Though many people only stake Manchester, where the pattern for "creeping nationalisation" with new investments—

scheme has recently been completed. So why are the directors recommending that Felixstowe be nationalised? Inevitably the problem of succession is a factor, given Mr. Parker's age, and it would be almost impossible to replace a man with such a strong personality.

Moreover, the future outlook is uncertain. Heavy investment by Mr. Fred Mulley, the former Transport Minister, of any increase in the company has had to a significant extent to modernise facilities has Transport Minister, of any increased role for the British Transport Docks Board. Dr. John Gilbert, as the new man year to June 30, 1975, drawn up before the sale of Felixstowe to take, and the Government has already said that the Parliamentary timetable is too overloaded to include a Bill in the next session.

Whatever the reasons for delay, the eventual pattern of ports reorganisation is now a matter for speculation. One fear within the industry is that the Government, under pressure from its Left wing, will return to the idea of "monolithic nationalisation"—that is, the abolition of all the major port authorities and the transfer of their undertakings to a new State authority, as proposed in the 1973 Ports Bill.

However, helped no doubt by the reform of the administration of many port authorities, Labour's thinking has become a lot more pragmatic. Indeed, ports regarded as already within the public sector under Mr. Mulley's proposals (which very much bear the mark of Mr. Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, who is also deputy chairman of the National Ports Council, the body responsible for supervising the industry) handle more than 80 per cent. of Britain's sea-borne trade.

But the whole structure is exceedingly complex, with accidents of history, local geography, and politics resulting in the creation of, in many cases, essentially ad hoc port authorities. Already within the widely

become Labour's approach to the problems of port management. Mr. Mulley stressed the need "to maintain the present pattern of public ownership by individual port authorities, in order to preserve local initiative and responsibility." This would ensure that ports continued to compete on service and on price whereas "the wholesale transfer of ownership to the National Ports Authority would mean over-centralisation and unnecessary dislocation of the industry."

There are those within the ports industry who read a wider significance into the Felixstowe takeover by pointing out the similarity between Mr. Mulley's principles and those operated by the RTDB. The suggestion is that Felixstowe could set the scene, in which the Government already has an important

role to play, to bring the Government's policy objectives.

Limited though its present direct powers of intervention may be, the Council's achievements have not been lacking.

The key question is whether

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# BOOKS

## Mind and body

BY G. P. SNOW

The Life of Bertrand Russell by Ronald W. Clark. Jonathan Cape and Weidenfeld and Nicolson. £5.95. 786 pages.

In the first sentence to this book, Ronald Clark makes the resounding remark "Men—and women—will be writing about Bertrand Russell as long after his death as they have been writing about Leonardo or Napoleon." That does seem going rather far. It is over 450 years since Leonardo died. Somewhere around 2430 AD men—and will he—change beyond our imagining? It will presumably be at least one quarter Chinese. Russell was a remarkable man, but his best claim to fame, which is his work on mathematical logic, may be entombed in the text books in that long future. More likely, Einstein is the only 20th century thinker who will still be more than a name.

This bit of rhetoric apart, this is a biography of Mr. Clark's valuable contributions to intellectual biography. He is much more at home with Russell than whom he was with Einstein, about whom he domesticated the most important things too much. Einstein really was significantly different, particularly in moral stature, from the rest of his contemporaries. Maybe Mr. Clark doesn't explain clearly the later phases of Russell's philosophical thought and his profound disagreement with the linguistic analysts. Certainly Mr. Clark doesn't explain clearly what some of him came to me through

Wittgenstein, at the end, was saying—but that would take some doing. One other grumble. There are rather a lot of cheerful clichés in the text, inappropriate when dealing with one of the masters of classical English prose. Otherwise the book is very well done, both with his sense and Mr. Clark's usual scholarly thoroughness, and will be read for a long time.

Russell was born in 1872 and lived until he was getting on for 98. He was the grandson of Lord John Russell, and had all the heritage (except money, of which he was short until he was old) of the Whig aristocracy. It is a cherished belief that great aristocrats don't give a damn. In real life they usually do. Russell however for nearly a century behaved like the popular conception of an aristocrat. Some time this behaviour was valuable to the world, sometimes callous to those who loved him and not infrequently absurd. He not only bore a physical resemblance to Harpo Marx, but was capable of giving a spirited aristocratic version of the same.

He was one of the cleverest men of the century. G. H. Hardy used to say that Russell and Keynes were the two cleverest men he had ever known. In that particular judgment there was no one whom one would trust more than Hardy. He knew Russell well and figures a good deal in this biography. Perhaps I should say that, though I met Russell occasionally, many of my impressions of him came to me through

Hardy. Perhaps I should also say that he was using clever in the old Cambridge sense, intended as a term of praise, without the slightest derogatory implication.

Russell had a mind of concentrated and intense power. His way of thinking of course for a prolonged period. That is to say, the kind of mind necessary for high class conceptual thought, and it was with this splendid equipment that he reached his conclusions on the logical structure of mathematics ("I shall be here one day," he is reported as saying cheerfully at the age of 72 as he passed the marble busts in Trinity Library, and no doubt he will).

Such a mind, though it is rigidly disciplined, is liable to fancy that position is simpler than it is. That was often the defect in Russell in his final avatar as world sage. It is very difficult to estimate how much good he did, or whether he did any good at all. His singular suggestion that America ought to threaten the Soviet Union with nuclear bombardment immediately after the end of the Second World War is an example of this blinkered simplification. Incidentally, it was military nonsense, as Blaekett could have told him, but Russell wasn't good at extending his thought through his intellect.

Until very old age there was a series of marriages interspersed with affairs with young girls he would like educating. One would guess that he had one of those temperaments, erotic but



Bertrand Russell's girls and logic

really affectionate—which led him to imagine that there must be an even more wonderful sexual consummation the other side of the hill. When with one woman he seems to have been stimulated into thinking of another, and when he was parting with one he had always insured himself by providing the next incubitum. That isn't so uncommon. But the whole of his amorous history is remarkably rooco, and to understand it we should need some hard sexual facts.

### Fiction

## Fallen angels

BY ISOBEL MURRAY

Angels at the Ritz by William Trevor. Bodley Head, £3.50. 253 pages

To the Opera Ball by Sarah Grahame. Macmillan, £3.50. 247 pages

Strike the Strikers by G. W. Target. Duckworth, £3.25. 189 pages

The Great Victorian Collection, by Brian Moore. Jonathan Cape, £2.25. 213 pages

Billy Liar on the Moon by Keith Waterhouse. Michael Joseph, £3. 240 pages

Long ago on Polly's birthday, the four children who all went to the Ritz—despite their poverty—they were the "angels dining at the Ritz" referred to in the title story of William Trevor's new collection. Now, highly successful materially and members of an affluent and sensation-seeking suburban community, Sue and Malcolm have decided to join the game—husbands car keys thrown on the carpet, wives blindfolded to take a lucky dip.

Polly and Gavin haven't joined in, but at the party, there are

several who are—mostly numbered by Malcolm and Sue, waiting to start with what they know. Somewhere, somehow, it attempts to pin-point blame for this horror out of

"the insane crowd of that

"griped millions." The switch-

back between the two youngsters

and shallow, their careers set

ash, the life of privilege that

surrounds them offensive. I

think it is a pity Sarah Grahame

feels it necessary to provide the

romantic modern story, which

get more serious when a

doctor's daughter is kidnapped

and threats get worse if the

doctors won't go back. The

would-be strike-breakers are

formed into a private army to

"pull the country back to its

senses". A well-written and

thought-provoking book.

Brian Moore's *The Great*

*Victorian Collection* starts with

a great notion: a young history

professor dreams a fantastic

collection of Victorians is outside

his hotel window and when he

looks out it is really there. All

sorts of difficulties arise with

customs and excise, and over

ownership and care of the colo-

nization, and the book rings with

warnings of what can happen

when your dreams come true,

how they can take you over and

dominate your life, and how

they are tarnished by modern

promotion techniques. But I

found nothing in the book was

as striking as the initial situa-

tion and despite the quality of

Brian Moore's writing felt it

fall off gradually in interest.

*Billy Liar on the Moon*

resumes the career of that lov-

able and pathological fantasist,

whose teenage Mityisms have

enthrallled millions on paper and

on screen. *Billy Liar* now works

in the Council Publicity Office in

a commuter-belt town off the

M1 and lives with an unloved

and uninteresting wife and his

poor old mother. He has en-

livened existence with an eccen-

tric and hard-drinking mistress

and an eccentric and hard-

drinking boss, but *Billy* isn't

what he used to be. Somehow,

somewhere, he has shrunk and

diminished. His fans will want

to read this book, but will hardly

find it as memorable as its pre-



William Trevor: tale of a wife-swap

## The Godfather

BY DAVID WATT

The Past Masters by Harold Macmillan, Macmillan, £4.50. 240 pages

Harold Macmillan has been fortunate in his old age—and so have we. A long Indian summer has enabled him during more than a decade of retirement to adorn the scene with an incomparable display of style. A world-weary figure, clad metrophically and often literally in the splendid robes of the Chancellor of Oxford University, has shufled from stage to stage again and again for one last bow and has held the footlights and not the printed page. His autobiography, with the exception of the brilliant second volume, was worth but ultimately dull. The volumes only came to life when the author recounted the same story in front of the television cameras. The elaborate

Sur the point about this performance has been precisely that it has been so staged. It is an odd thing to say about a publisher, but Macmillan's medium has always been the footlights and not the printed page. His autobiography, with the exception of the brilliant second volume, was worth but ultimately dull. The volumes only came to life when the author recounted the same story in front of the television cameras. The elaborate

Edwardian manner is carried off with ease when accompanied by a tremor in the voice, a shaking of silvery locks or a patrician curl of the lip. In print it is apt to look merely contrived.

This defect is even more apparent in this new book, where there is no strong narrative thread to keep the reader's attention. The idea of writing some biographical sketches of the political figures his youth and early manhood must have seemed an attractive one for the formula can be brilliantly successful as Churchill's "Great Contemporaries" showed. But Churchill did not make the mistake of trying to load his portraits with excessive historical significance. He described his friends with a painter's eye and left it at that. Macmillan has tried to retell through his perceptions of some selected personalities such as Lloyd George, Chamberlain and Baldwin, the history of British politics in this century (and to some extent, in the last as well) and has produced little more than a sketchy recapitulation of what has been told better in other books, including his own memoirs.

The book comes most alive when Macmillan's personal memories are least diluted. There is a delightful picture of Lloyd George instructing the young Macmillan on the tricks required for making a successful speech in the House of Commons ("Just say one thing; when you are a Minister, two things, and when you are Prime Minister, three"). Another chapter with some charming insights is a long homily upon the Whig tradition in British politics. Macmillan is a Whig both by temperament and marriage and his contempt for the Conservative Party has throughout his life been rather that of Lord Lansdowne of whom he records that having been leader of the Conservative Party in the Lords for years he still preferred getting drenched walking to Broome's Club rather than committing the degrading solecism of taking

refuge in the Carlton Club. For the rest, the book consists in some admirably selected photographs, some long rehearsals of public events which Macmillan was not much closer to than anyone else and, at the end, a tentative attempt to draw some conclusions about political leadership and party politics.

These last might have been extremely interesting, considering the machinations of what became known as the "Birch Grove Mafia" at the time of the Conservative election last year and afterwards, in favour of a coalition government if needed, but they are not advised to try to control events. It seems a rather tame conclusion to what Godfather of that particular is, alas, a rather tame work.

## Dizzy stuff

BY CHRISTOPHER TUGENDHAT

his own autobiography. The order in which the papers were found was clearly not that in which they were written, and, as this was impossible to determine, the editors have arranged them in sections roughly corresponding to the chronological order of the contents.

The man whose library has everything might well be delighted to receive *Dizzies* for Christmas. The book is full of the most fascinating and remarkable pieces of information. Queen Victoria's Reminiscences, edited by Helen M. Swartz and Marvin Hamilton, £3.50, 166 pages.

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## WALL STREET + OVERSEAS MARKETS

## Down 12.8 on Ford's veto threat

BY OUR WALL STREET CORRESPONDENT

A SHARP REACTION on Wall Street followed President Ford's threat to veto any legislation to bail out New York City. Instead, he proposed a Bill to assure the continuation of essential services for the City in the event it defaults on its financial obligations which came due in early December.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average came back 12.8 to 883.65 and the NYSE All Common Index dipped 6 cents to 347.26, while losses outpaced gains by a more than three-to-one majority. Trading volume decreased 950,000 shares to 16.1m.

Although President Ford proposed revisions in the Bankruptcy Laws to accommodate a default by the City, investors feared the potential impact of default on Securities Markets.

Some selling also followed by the report that U.S. Leading Economic Indicators fell 0.6 per cent in September for the first decline in seven months.

Chrysler fell \$1 to \$101 on its 5.7m loss for the third quarter, which exceeded industry forecasts.

General Motors held unchanged at \$35 despite sharply higher profits.

U.S. Steel dropped \$1 to \$64 on lower earnings. Inspiration Consolidated Copper gave way \$1 to \$23 on reduced profits.

Pillsbury were lowered \$31 to \$79. But Quaker Oats gained \$1 to \$22 on its "useable boost" in profits for the third quarter.

Air Products and Chemicals gained \$2 to \$64 on analysis forecasts of lower earnings.

LTV shed another \$1 to \$11; on a third quarter loss.

Northern Natural Gas sank \$2 to \$89 on lower third quarter net.

The American SE Market Value Index moved down 0.56 to 82.92 with declines outnumbering advances by 401-to-194.

Overhead Door, the most active issue, shed \$1 to \$55 on \$8,900 shares.

Miller-Wohlfahrt fell \$1 to \$29 but Kollmorgen were up \$1 to \$13.

## OTHER MARKETS

## Canada lower

Canadian Stock Markets were mostly lower in moderate trading yesterday.

The Industrial Share Index lost 1.13 to 187.01. Base Metals 0.27 to 71.05. Western Oil 0.57 to 150.65. Banks 2.37 to 24.13 and Papers 1.03 to 85.36. But Golds were lifted

BRUSSELS—Mixed in very slow trading.

Steel improved. Electricals and Utilities were little changed. Metals finished narrowly mixed. Chemicals higher. Oils weakened, while Holdings eased.

Small rises predominated among U.S. shares. Other Internationals were basically steady. South African Gold Mines advanced modestly.

AMSTERDAM—Generally firmer in calm trading.

Afko, up Fls.1.6 at Fls.35.9, led Dutch Internationals higher. Royal Dutch, however, shed Fls.6 to Fls.54.

KLM rose Fls.2 to Fls.49.5, pending its first half figures to

morrow. OCE moved up Fls.3 to Fls.160.

Banks were generally lower. State Loans firmed slightly.

GERMANY—Narrowly mixed following some profit-taking.

Banks, Chemicals and Motors mostly lost ground, but Electricals and Engineering were generally higher.

Bonds were irregular to firm.

The Authorities intervened moderately. Mark Foreign Loans were steady.

COPENHAGEN—Mixed, to higher in active dealings.

MILAN—Mixed close after active late demand reversed, in part, an earlier downward trend.

Most Blue Chips, such as Fiat, Montedison, Sna Viscosa, Pirelli Olivetti, Assicurazioni Generali and Rca were among the gainers.

TOKYO—Sharply higher in active trading, led by Blue Chips and "low-priced" shares. Volume 300m. (250m.) shares.

Selective interest revived in many sectors, leading to a steady recovery in the U.S. economy.

Export Orientated shares rallied. Sony gained Yen 20 to Yen 2,400 on active colour TV exports to the U.S. Camera, Paper-Pulp, Shipping and Trading Houses also firms.

HONG KONG—Lower in increased trading.

Hong Kong Banks were down 10 cents to HK\$16.30. Jardine 80 cents to HK\$26.60 and Hong Kong and Kewloos Wharf 20 cents to HK\$11.10.

SYDNEY—Mining and Mining-Related shares took a turn but the underlying strength of markets was unimpaired.

The Beach Sands Mines came back following an article which indicated their boom days were over, while Coals, Uraniums and Oil leaders ran out of momentum.

Beach Sands losers included Associated Minerals down 7 cents to \$1.80 and Cadogan 5 cents to 7 cents.

Pancontinental led Uraniums lower with a 20 cents fall to \$16.50. Pele came back 10 cents to \$4.10. Ezi 10 cents to \$4.20 and Queensland Mines 1 cent to \$1.50.

IND. DIVIDEND YIELD P.C.

Oct. 24 Oct. 25 Oct. 26 1974

4.56 4.60 5.97

TORONTO INDUSTRIAL INDEX

Oct. 23 Oct. 24 Oct. 25 1974 High 1975 Low

151.24 152.71 153.14 151.24 151.24

ONTREAL INDUSTRIAL INDEX

Oct. 23 Oct. 24 Oct. 25 1974 High 1975 Low

151.17 151.24 151.24 151.17 151.17

COMBINED INDEX

Oct. 23 Oct. 24 Oct. 25 1974 High 1975 Low

160.35 160.38 160.30 160.35 160.35

AMERICAN SE MARKET VALUE INDEX

Oct. 23 Oct. 24 Oct. 25 1974 High 1975 Low

150.52 152.22 154.48 155.08 155.39

JOHANNESBURG

Oct. 23 Oct. 24 Oct. 25 1974 High 1975 Low

180.3 180.5 180.7 180.9 180.9

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OVERSEAS SHARE INFORMATION

NEW YORK

Stock Oct. 23 Oct. 24

Stock Oct. 23 Oct. 2

## FARMING AND RAW MATERIALS

### Community food sales in U.K. rise

Richard Mooney

CHANGING pattern of food imports following into the Common Market is illustrated in figures released by Ministry of Agriculture today.

Though the U.S. continued Britain's main supplier of

France last year totalled 26 per cent, of its against 16 per cent, in and only 1 per cent, during 1964/65 period.

of total maize imports of 800 tons, the U.S. accounted 77,000 and France 552,000, 800,000 tons came from the islands, but much of this was transhipped U.S.

between 1964 and 1965, over

third of British wheat im-

came from Australia and

By 1974, however,

this import had become

the Canadian and the Canadian

had declined to 12 per

at the same time France

and the rest of the U.K. to 8 per cent, after

an 18 per cent, in 1973,

main change in U.K.

supplies, however, was the increasing importance of grown supplies, which up from 46 per cent, of the 1964/65 to 66 per cent.

EEC adopted 300,000 tons

and veal (15 per cent, of

to Britain in 1974,

70,000 in 1973 and 3,000

65. During the same

Australian shipments

from 300,000 tons to

in dairy produce showed

the trends apart from

balance factors for which

arrangements exist. Ira-

ton the Netherlands rose

per cent, to 22 per cent,

from West Germany

one, from 1 per cent, to

8 per cent, and

14 6 per cent, of Britain's

was supplied by New

Zealand against 30 per cent,

EEC.

### Britain to urge restraint in fixing EEC farm prices

BY JOHN EDWARDS, COMMODITIES EDITOR

BRITAIN IS to seek measures to ensure that EEC farm prices are not set at excessively high levels and that Community consumers are given some priority in the disposal of surplus supplies.

These are the two main objectives of the U.K. in the proposed reform of the Common Agricultural Policy being considered at the meeting of EEC farm ministers that opened in Luxembourg last night.

Mrs Shirley Williams, U.K. Secretary for Prices, is back up the British case for more consideration of consumer interests in an address to the meeting today. Meanwhile, Mr. F. Pearl, Minister of Agriculture, said before leaving from Luxembourg yesterday that he would press for the retention of special arrangements for beef marketing in the U.K. He would also propose moves to restrain surpluses of milk products and the introduction of a more sensible pattern of feed grain prices.

Mr. Pearl said no time limit had been set on the stockholding. But he was confident that at least some of the objectives towards a "radical change" would be agreed in time to be included in the EEC farm price package for 1976-77.

Priority should be given to price fixing so as to discourage the less efficient producer. This was the only way to ensure, over a period, that prices were not set at an uneconomic level, making costs to the consumer unnecessary and putting too heavy a

burden on the Community budget.

Mr. Pearl said that disposal of the skimmed milk "mountain" was most urgent.

On beef, Mr. Pearl was insistent that he intended to hold on to the special arrangements for beef marketing in Britain. whereby variable premiums (in effect deficiency payments) were

put in place of the intervention system. It was working to the benefit of all concerned, he declared, and must be retained for a longer period.

At the same time Britain would press for other changes in the Community's beef regime,



Mr. Fred Pearl

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At the same time Britain would press for other changes in the Community's beef regime,

as the virtues of the CAP, as well as stressing that they wanted improvements in its operation.

Herr Josef Ertl, West German Farm Minister, said Bonn was simply pressing for money in the common farm budget to be used more cost-effectively.

M. Christian Bonnet, the French Farm Minister, said Paris was not opposed to change provided it was confined to the CAP's mechanisms, not its fundamental principles. An official said the Ministers appeared unanimous that the farm policy needed strengthening rather than undermining.

Opening statements by Ministers at the talks emphasised the following features of the EEC canned ham trade with the U.S.:

1-Total U.S. imports of canned hams from other countries represent only 4 per cent, of the market in the U.S., which the EEC contributes to two-thirds.

2-Hams from the Community are priced markedly higher than U.S. hams.

3-Exports of canned hams from the EEC to the U.S. have declined in recent years. In 1973, exports totalled 104,000 tonnes, in 1974, 84,500 and this year they are expected to be no more than 70,000.

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This reflects the recent cut

in the U.S. Agriculture Department's Soviet crop estimate to 50 million tonnes. It means that wheat production will have fallen behind the 3 per cent long-term growth rate in world consumption, the Council notes.

### Intervention buying 'grossly inefficient'

BY ELISABETH GOODMAN

EUROPEAN CONSUMER groups are to press the EEC for radical changes in its agricultural policy.

In a document sent to Mr. Pierre Lardinois, the EEC Commissioner for Agriculture, to coincide with the meeting of the nine Common Market Agriculture Ministers in Luxembourg, the Consumers' Consultative Committee says the existing policy of protecting producers within the Community effectively raises prices for the consumer.

The document, which has not been published officially, is also believed to ask for the introduction of some kind of deficiency specific objective of presenting payments for farmers, paid for in out-of-taxes.

It attacks the policy of buying food into intervention as "grossly inefficient" and a positive encouragement to surpluses. Where occasional surpluses are inevitable, it says, they must be disposed of within the EEC.

This week's meeting of agricultural Ministers is the first occasion in which consumers will have been given a chance to make their voice heard within the CAP. Mrs. Shirley Williams, the British Secretary for Prices, is the first Minister to attend such a meeting with the Consumers' point of view in relation to farm prices.

The document, but closed to the press, also claims that the intervention buying system has been a failure.

It says, "The intervention buying system has been a failure. The switching between different price levels has been a constant source of uncertainty and confusion for consumers."

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## STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Slater, Walker nerves upset equity market again  
Index falls 7.6 to 352.5—Gilt close easier—Golds better

## Account Dealing Dates

Option  
First Decimals—Last Account Dealings Day Oct. 29 Oct. 30 Oct. 31 Nov. 11 Nov. 3 Nov. 14 Nov. 23 Nov. 17 Nov. 27 Nov. 28 Dec. 9

"New time" dealings may take place from 9.30 a.m. two business days earlier.

A revival of concern over the future of Slater Walker Securities caused a reversal in the firm's fortunes of equities. Selling, however, was mainly small, the bulk of the day's setback being attributed more to the withdrawal of buyers.

Much of the day's interest centred on Slater Walker Securities and those companies associated either by share-holders or linked with Mr. Jimmy Goldsmith, the new chairman of SWS. Slater slipped sharply to 29p at one stage on fears that the quotation might be suspended following adverse Press comment, however, the shares rallied from the worst to close a net 10 down at 27p compared with last Thursday's close of 36p prior to the resumption of Mr. Jim Slater. Lubok Investments, of which Mr. Slater is a 15 per cent. shareholder, and the 12 per cent. Convertible Loan, lost 10 points at a low of 58p. Mr. Jimmy Goldsmith's Careham and Anglo-Continental Investment and Finance were 30p sharply depressed, the former ending 7 down at 187p, while the latter fell well late to close only 3 off at 36p, after 43p.

Fairly steady at the start, leading equities quickly reacted to the Slater Walker rumours: the FT 30-share index down only 1.3 at 10 a.m. was 7.6 lower at 11 a.m. This level was held until near the close when there appeared to be an attempted rally which reduced the fall at 3 p.m. to 4.2. Conditions and prices, however, softened again in the late trading and the closing index, at 323.5, registered a fall on the day of 7.6.

Secondary equities were less affected as the 3-2 ratio of falls to rises in FT-listed industrials suggests (rises led by 4.1 on Tuesday). The FT Actuaries All-Share index lost 1.2 per cent. to 151.42.

"New time" dealings may take place from 9.30 a.m. two business days earlier.

Early enthusiasm for British Funds waned as potential buyers stood back to observe the fresh weakness in Slater Walker and the equities generally. Fresh gains extending to 1% at the longer-end quickly disappeared and, with the market then becoming thin and unwilling small losses ranging to 1% appeared. These were subsequently reduced to 1%, and, in places, erased completely in the after-hours' trading. The shorts behaved similarly in a much narrower range. Interest continued to be displayed in low-coupon issues, one or two of which became very difficult to sell. It would not be a complete surprise if a new low-coupon "tap" stock was announced soon. High-coupon maturities ran into some sizeable offerings, but stock was finally absorbed at slightly lower levels. Corporations traded quietly, gaining in some instances.

A continuation of the previous evening's late buying took the investment currency premium up to 165 per cent., but when demand faded rates reacted rather swiftly and the close was a net 1% lower at 101% per cent., after 100% per cent. Yesterday's SE conversion factor was 0.6233 (0.6232).

Fearing possible repercussions from the Slater Walker situation, the Banking sector remained a nervous and sensitive market. Profit-taking towards the end of the account left Midland 9 lower at 235p, after 239p, while National Westminster declined 6 to 225p, after 235p, and Barclays 5 to 235p. Lloyds closed 3 down at 233p, after 230p. Over-

seas casualties included Hong Kong and Shanghai, which fell to close 3 easier on the day, at 242p and 243p. Elsewhere, Ailsa Packaging moved up to 77p and Coates Bros. 4% to 44p. Among Overseas issues, Hoechst advanced 16

Kleinwort Benson a similar amount down at 16p. By way of

After touching 230p, ICI reacted to 230p, close 3 easier on the day, at 234p. Elsewhere, Ailsa Packaging moved up to 77p and Coates Bros. 4% to 44p. Among Overseas issues, Hoechst advanced 16

further to 128p, Charles Clifford Motors and Distributors presented a firm appearance. British Leyland edged up to 35p on its following news of a proposed major acquisition. Press comment listed F. H. Lloyd 1% to 55p and, among lesser-priced issues, Redman Hoosen picked up 1% more

to 56p. GKN, however,

rose 5 to 77p and Bulloch further to 128p. Weir, due to be quoted on the Stock Exchange, gained 2 to 23p on a mid-week investment recommendation. News of the Oxtrey Printing Lease loan proposals, which include the right to convert into Ordinary shares, caused the former to be raised to 75p. Ordinary eased 1% to 145p.

The Slater Walker troubles cast a dark cloud over London Properties, which retreated quite sharply on nervous selling. In contrast, Allied Irish rose 7 to 130p in response to the good half-year profits.

Insurances succumbed to the general down trend. Small offerings in a market-leading position, such as Allianz, 5 easier to 200p and General Accident, 165p, and Royal's 310p, both 4% lower.

Lloyd's Brokers, which were firm on Tuesday, also turned easier.

Minet Holdings and Sedgwick

Forbes both gave up 4 at 180p; 29p following maintained half-time

profits. BSR, 85p, gave up 3 of the recent rise, while Dabiller, reflecting Slater Walker's stake in the company, shed 1% to 8p.

Highland Electronics managed to finish fractionally harder at 104p awaiting to-day's annual results.

George H. Scholes improved 5 to 165p in a thin market.

GKN were the principal casualty in Engineering, losing 1% to 228p, while Tidye Investments shed 4 to 270p. Hawker, in contrast, rose to 332p before closing a net 2 higher at 328p. Elsewhere, Derited Stamping improved 4

to 125p following a sharp rise in light trading to close with reactions to 6, as in EML 229p, and GEC, after moving between 135p and 131p, ended only a net 2 down at 132p, while Raytron

Parsons closed similarly easier at 83p. After improving fresh to 725p at the outset, Phillips Lamp came back to close 5 down on the day at 703p. Elsewhere, Telephone Rentals closed 2 off at 82p following maintained half-time

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to 125p following a sharp rise in light trading to close with reactions to 6, as in EML 229p, and GEC, after moving between 135p and 131p, ended only a net 2 down at 132p, while Raytron

Parsons closed similarly easier at 83p. After improving fresh to 725p at the outset, Phillips Lamp came back to close 5 down on the day at 703p. Elsewhere, Telephone Rentals closed 2 off at 82p following maintained half-time

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